THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS
BENGALURU • MONDAY • MAY 08, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

Raj CM: Raje, 2 other BJP netas helped save my govt

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot on Sunday claimed Vasundhara Raje and two other BJP leaders had helped save his government during the 2020 revolt by his party MLAs. He also took potshots at rebel Congress MLAs saying they should return the money they had taken from the BJP so that they can carry out their duty without any pressure. Gehlot's then deputy Sachin Pilot and 18 other Congress MLAs had revolted in July 2020.

Congress' Votebank Politics

Talks Openly About Separation of Karnataka from India

Double Engine Sarkara

Committed to Strong, Secure, United India

LET'S COMPARE

- Will withdraw the anti-cow slaughter law.
- Will withdraw the anti-conversion law.
- Will launch Tipu University.
- Will celebrate Tipu Jayanti.
- Will ban Bajrang Dal.
- Will withdraw cases against terror organisations like PFI as they did by dropping cases against 1600 PFI members.
- Will withdraw reservations to SC/ST, OBC and give to one community.

- Real social justice through reservations for SC/ST, OBC and EWS.
- Banning terrorist organisations like PFI.
- Uniform Civil Code in Karnataka and ensure gender justice and equal rights to all.
- Develop Banavasi, Parashurama, Kaveri Circuits and Ganagapura Corridor.
- Dedicated to restoring ancient cultural sites of Karnataka.
- Rs. 25,000 to poor families to undertake Daiva Yatre to Tirupati, Ayodhya, Kashi, Rameswaram, Kolhapur, Sabrimala and Kedarnath.

If Congress had served Karnataka in the last 65 years, there would be no need for Lies, Guarantees and Votebank Politics.

Congress is reverse gear Party, while Narendra Modi & BJP are building a better future for ALL at **double speed, double scale.**

ಡಬಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಸಾಕಾರ
ಈ ಬಾರಿಯ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಬಹುಮತದ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

Published by BJP, Karnataka

Press the Lotus Button ← Vote for Bjp

SESHADRIPURAM INSTITUTIONS

ADMISSIONS OPEN for 1st PUC : 2023-24

SESHADRIPURAM INDEPENDENT PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
27, Nagappa Street, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.
Prof. R. V. Manjunath, Principal Tel: 22955358. website: spucmain.ac.in
COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM COMPOSITE PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
40, Girls' School Street, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.
Prof G. K. Manjunath, Principal Tel: 22955365. website: scpucblr.ac.in
COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560 064.
Prof. T. Doddegowda, Principal Tel: 22955372. website: www.scpuc.ac.in
COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM INDEPENDENT PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
18, 2nd Main, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru-560 060
Dr. Manjunath R. Principal Tel: 22955377. website: www.spuc.ac.in
COMMERCE: MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM EVENING PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
27, Nagappa Street, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.
Prof. R. Mahalakshmi, Principal Tel: 22955359. website: www.sepuc.ac.in
COMMERCE: HEBA / CEBA

N. R. Pandith Aradhya, President
Dr. Wooday P. Krishna, Honorary General Secretary

SRI SEETHARAGHAVA SOUHARDA SAHAKARA BANK NIYAMITHA

HOSADURGA - 577 527, Chitradurga Dist., Karnataka. Ph. 08199 230447

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per the notice of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act–2002, under Section 13(2).

A notice is hereby given that the following borrower/s have defaulted the repayment of principal and payment of interest of loans obtaining by them and Others from the bank and those have turned to be Non Performing Assets. The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act–2002 on their last known address. Also hereby informed by the way of public notice about the same.

Name and Address of Borrower/s

1. K S Suresh S/o Shivalingappa K P
SLN Bakery, Industrial Area
Ajjampura Road, Hosadurga Town

K.S SURESA K.P. SHIVLINGAPPA K.S GANESH

Surety:-
1. K P Shivalingappa S/o Lt Parvathappa. 2. Keshavamurthy C S/o Channabasappa. 3. Ganesh K S S/o K P Shivalingappa. 4. Anusuya K R W/o Suresh K S

Property Address of Secured Assets/Assets to be enforced:-

1. A Vacant site property bearing No 67/67 SP No 10 E-Property No 26-4-9055 measuring E-W 18.17 Mtrs, N-S 21 Mtrs Total Area 381.67 Sq Meters situated at Industrial Area Estate Ajjampura Road, Hosadurga Town, Hosadurga Tq Bounded as follows East by Private Property West by Road North By Private Property South by Special plot No 9
2. All that pieces and parcel of immovable property bearing Southern Partition of Site No 6 Khata No 2084 / 1022 / 6 E Khata Property No 150200100600400708 and 2084 / 1022 / 6, in the layout known and called as "Sreenidhi Sacred Springs", formed in converted Land in Survey No 129 (Conversion Order Bearing No BDS.ALN (A) SR 60/04-05, dated 07.02.2005. ALN (A) (K&A) SR 9/06-07, Dated 20.07.2006 BDS ALN (A) SR 598 / 04 – 05 Dated 29.03.2005 BDS ALN (A) SR 381 / 2004-05 Dated 12.01.2005 passed by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District and Layout has been approved from the Anekal planning Authority Wide approval No APA / LAO / 41 / 06-07 dated 16.02.2013 situvated at Lakshisagara Village Attibele Hobli Anekal Tq Bangalore Urban District in all measuring 1280 Sq Feet out of 2226 Sq feet and bounded as follows East By Road, West by Site bearing No 18 and 19 North by Northern portion of Site No 6, South by Land bearing Survey No 119

Outstanding as upto 30-04-2023:- 1) Rs 92,78,797.00 2) Rs 12,49,761.00

(Note: Above amount is excluding interest, penal interest, postage, legal charges, advertisement charges and other charges to be levied from 01-05-2023)

The above borrower and/or their guarantors (wherever applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding **within 60 days**from the date of bank served notice dated **05.05.2023,**failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days as per the provisions of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act – 2002.

-sd-
Authorized officer/General Manager
for Sri Seetharaghava Souharda
Sahakara Bank Niyamitha, Hosadurga.

Date: - 05.05.2023
Place: - Hosadurga

(Format C - 1)

Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(Civil) No.536 of 2011(Public Interest Foundation of Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name & Address of Candidate: Umapathy Srinivasa Gowda
Name of Political Party: Indian National Congress
Name of Election: Karnataka Assembly Election 2023
Name of Constituency: 175- Bommanahalli Constituency

I Umapathy Srinivasa Gowda a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

A. Pending Criminal Cases

SI NO	Name of Court	Case No. & Dated	Status of Case	Section of the Acts Concerned & Brief description of offence(s)
1	37th ACMM Court, Bengaluru	Crime Number 130 of 2023 HSR Layout Police Station	Investigation Stage	Section 171E of Indian Penal Code and Umapathy Srinivasa Gowda who is an congress party election ticket aspirant along with his association was distributing milk at freedom park 2nd Sector HSR Layout on 13/04/2023.

B. Details about cases of Conviction for criminal offences

SI NO	Name of Court and Date of Order	Description of Offences(s) & Punishment Imposed	Maximum Punishment imposed
	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Date: 06-05-2023 Place: Bengaluru **(Umapathy Srinivasa Gowda)**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, 1.Mr.K.Srinivasamurthy, 2.Krishnappa Venkatesh both are Residing at No.42, 7th Cross, Someswarapura Halasuru Bangalore North, HAL II Stage, Bangalore North Bangalore-560008. We have lost my Original Memo dated on 01.10.1963 and Original Registered will deed dated-25.05.2001 bearing Doc.No.61/2001-02 for the property bearing Site No. 42, New No.8 measuring East to West 60 feet North to South 40 feet, situated at extension Cambridge Layout Road Extension, 7th Cross, Someshwarapuram Bengaluru -560008, Karnataka India. While taking photocopy in Xerox Shop

If Any person/Institution has any claim or interest of any nature pertaining to aforesaid property and document, the said claims along-with Supporting document shall be filed with undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice at the address mentioned below. Any claim raised thereafter shall not be entertained or binding.

Deepa A.M, Advocate,
KAR/474/2012
No.6, 80 feet Road,
Chandra Layout, Bangalore 560040

Bangalore
Dated:06.05.2023

From No. 18

Notice for appearance in appeals order 41 Rule 14 CPC and Rules 1, 2, 4 and 11 of Chapter IV Karnataka High Court Rules
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

MFA No. 6936/2018 (CPC)

Appellant : Miss Thara Sophia .N, Daughter of Mr. J.L. Nathan, aged about 41 years, Residing at No. 24/1, Rajappa Block, J.C. Nagara, Bengalauru - 560 006.
By Sri Janardhana .G, Adv.

Vs

Respondent : Smt. PADMA JAIN WIFE OF LATE D.K. JAIN, AGED ABOUT 52 YEARS, RESIDING AT NO.12, 1ST CROSS, RAJANNA LAYOUT, NEAR NEW SHILPA BAKERY, HORAMAVU AGRAHARA, BENGALURU - 560043.

Appeal From the Judgement/Award/Order passed on dt. 28.07.2018 ON IA No. 1 IN O.S. No. 3848/2017 on the file of the LXVII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, BENGALURU CITY. (CCH. No. 68).

To : Respondent No.

Smt. PADMA JAIN, Wife of Late D.K. Jain, aged about 52 years, Residing at No. 12, 1st Cross, Rajanna Layout, Near New Shilpa Bakery, Horamavu Agrahara, Bengaluru - 560 043.

Whereas the aforementioned Appeal preferred has been registered and admitted by this Court.

NOTICE IS HERESY given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law to act for you in this case **on 12.06.2023 at 10.30 a.m** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail so to appear, the appeal will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on Tuesday day THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL 2023.

By Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **Mrs. Megha Shree. D** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Client **Mrs. Sona Sandhya** free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr.RADESH.K, Office at Third Floor, Above Favara Car World, SMN Complex, Whitefield Main Road, Thubarahalli, Bangalore. within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE:

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing (Old Site No: 6) New **Site No: 616,** (Old Khata No: 422/1) **New No: 422/1-D,** CMC No: 320, measuring **1200 Square Feet** in the Layout formed in Sy No: 1/5, Situated at Marathahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk.

Contact : **Mr.RADESH BE,** LL.B, LL.M
Director- MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id: radesh@mkmlegalsolutions
Contact No: +91 7829456444

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **Mr. Amit Kumar Singha** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Client **Mr. Chethan. J** free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr.RADESH.K, Office at Third Floor, Above Favara Car World, SMN Complex, Whitefield Main Road, Thubarahalli, Bangalore. within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

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Contact : **Mr.RADESH BE,** LL.B, LL.M
Director- MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id: radesh@mkmlegalsolutions
Contact No: +91 7829456444

UJVN Limited

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani, Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No.U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website:www.ujvnl.com

Letter No:405 **e-Tender Notice** Date: 06/05/2023

Office of the Manager (A&S), UJJWAL, Maharani Bagh, Dehradun invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:
e-Tender No. 01/Manager(A&S)/2023-24
Name of Work/Supply/Services: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 01 No. 750KVA DG set along with AMF panel at New Office Building, UJJWAL, Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun
Estimated cost : Rs. 1,05,69,700.00 only GST extra
Date of availability of bid document on website : 08-05-2023 (14:00 hrs)
Last date for submission of bids document on website: 30-05-2023 (16:00 hrs)
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in.

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY" **Manager (A & S)**

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD

(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
H.O.: Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14, (Tele No. 0471 2945609, FAX : 0471 2945647),
E-mail :qc.kmscl@kerala.gov.in, website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in
CIN: U24233KL2007SGC021616

No. KMSCL/QC/4746/2023 Date :08.05.2023

EMPANELMENT OF NABL APPROVED DRUGS TESTING LABORATORIES
INVITATION OF EOI

The Kerala Medical Services Corporation invites Expression of Interest for 'Empanelment of NABL approved Drugs Testing Laboratory' for the year 2023-25 for testing of Drugs & supplies

Sl no:	EOI no.	Date & Time of pre-offer meeting	Last date and Time of receipt of offers	Date and Time of opening of the offers
1.	KMSCL/QC/ EOI/2023/01	20.05.2023 11.00am	05.06.2023 02.30 pm	05.06.2023 03.00 pm

The EOI document can be downloaded from the official website of the Corporation www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (EOI Inviting Authority)

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Thalamuthu Natarajan Building,
No.1, Gandhi Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(Consulting Services – Firm selection)

Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) is preparing a New Town Development Plan for Chengalpattu and invites eligible service providers to submit their proposal in providing the services for the below mentioned assignment.The project is assisted under the proposed Urban Mobility and Spatial Development (UMSD) Project Financed by the World Bank.

"Consultancy Services for the Preparation of Development Plan for Chengalpattu New Town – 2025-2045"

The detailed RFP document and Terms of Reference are available in the website - **www.cmdachennai.gov.in.** The Proposals will be received in the office of **Member Secretary, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Thalamuthu Natarajan Building, No.1, Gandhi Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008, Tamil Nadu, India upto 3.00 p.m. on 09.06.2023.** Submission of the proposal through email, speed post, courier, etc. will not be considered.

Any further Corrigendum or Amendment shall be notified in this website only. Consultants shall regularly visit the website to keep themselves updated.

Member Secretary
DIPR / 467 /DISPLAY/2023 **Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority**

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large, that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD., has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which have become overdue or which have defaults or margin breach of customers. The Auction would be held at respective Branches specified below on **Thursday 18-05-2023 between 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.** This would continue till the auction process is over.

Anekal 080-27830505 **FEDGL0088**0003251, 0003258, 0003263, 0004129, 0003982, 0004227, 0004568, 0004134, 0003856, 0004279, 0004435, 0004128, 0003981, 0004065, 0004176, 0004225, 0004252, 0004567, **Arakalgud** 08175-220780 **FEDGL0036**0008531, 0008534, 0008538, 0008546, 0008547, 0008564, 0008582, 0008584, 0008585, 0008590, 0008603, 0008614, 0008618, 0008621, 0008625, 0008628, 0008630 **Arasikere** 08174-299941 **FEDGL0414**0000969, 0001002, 0001003, 0001039, 0001530, 0001532 **B H Road** 8162277793 **FEDGL0103**0007314, 0007329, 0007340, 0007397, 0008345, 0008348, 0008375, 0010564, 0009956, 0011190, **BASAVESHWARA NAGAR** 080 41900282 **FEDGL0011**0009201, 0009268, 0009278, 0009283, 0010231, 0010682, 0010526, 0010759, 0010948, **BELGAUM** 0831 4201487 **FEDGL0136**0003695, 0003695, 0003698, 0003707, 0003727, 0003735, 0003741, 0003746, 0003747, 0004132 **BELUR** 08177 222100 **FEDGL0159**0007768, 0007773, 0007774, 0007777, 0007778, 0007781, 0007782, 0007783, 0007800, 0007816, 0007819, 0007820, 0007825, 0007831, 0007832, 0007833, 0007836, 0007840, 0007846, 0007852, 0007854, 0007855, 0007856, 0007857 **BOMMANAHALLI** 080 41500417 **FEDGL0014**0006802, 0006786, 0006900, **BTM LAYOUT** 080-41312231 **FEDGL0003**0005064, 0005067, 0005072, 0005824, 0005562, 0005881, 0005988, **BYADGI** 8375229022 **FEDGL0051**0007290, 0007294, 0007306, 0007319, 0007345, 0007347, 0007348, 0007353, 0007357, 0007362, 0007373, 0007391, 0007394, 0007406, 0007413, 0007414, 0007415, 0007416, 0007418, 0007420, 0007421, 0007424, 0007428, 0008927 **Caltex Circle** 8162277972 **FEDGL0102**0007369, 0007370, 0007381, 0007383, 0007385, 0007391, 0007399, 0007400, 0007407, 0007416, 0007418, 0007420, 0007443, 0007444, 0007457, 0007461, 0009944, 0009515, 0009981, 0009858, 0009945, 0009870, 0010620, 0009950, 0009939, 0009988, 0010160, **Car Street Bellary** 8392276005 **FEDGL0092**0002679, 0002906 **CHANNAPATNA** 080 27256046 **FEDGL0176**0015915, 0015916, 0015934, 0015938, 0015952, 0015955, 0015959, 0015989, 0016010, 0016022, 0016025, 0016032, 0016033, 0016040, 0016047, 0016848, 0018323 **CHENRAYAPATNA** 08176 252477 **FEDGL0158**0017616, 0017623, 0017626, 0017641, 0017648, 0017649, 0017672, 0017681,0017682,0017691,0017699, 0017703, 0017707, 0017708, 0017720, 0020662, 0019709, **CHIKKAMAGALUR** 08262 228286 **FEDGL0021**0005957, 0005960, 0005965, 0005994, 0006004, 0006005, 0006019, 0006384, 0006725 **DAVANGERE** 08192-252111 **FEDGL0229**0007683, 0007697, 0007702, 0007729, 0008236, 0008527, 0008891 **dharwad** 0836 -2970229 **FEDGL0233**0004682, 0004687, 0004690, 0004692, 0004703, 0004712, 0004720, 0004920, 0004925, 0005094 **Gadag** 08372-200075 **FEDGL0420**0000757, 0000758, 0000759, 0000760, 0000762, 0000764, 0000775, 0000788, 0000809, 0002576, 0002511, 0002652, 0002194, 0003421, **Gangavathi** 8533234018 **FEDGL0094**0003649, 0003654, 0003660, 0003676, 0003682 **Gubbi** 8131222850 **FEDGL0046**0008421, 0008441, 0008448, 0008483, 0008487, 0008492, 0008500, 0008504, 0008521, 0008522, 0008535, 0008538 **Gundalpete** 08229-295128 **FEDGL0383**0001385, 0001396, 0001402, 0001411, 0001412, 0001417, 0001420, 0001422, 0001433, 0001439, 0001449, 0001450, 0002569, 0002373, **H D Kote** 08228-297033 **FEDGL0058**0006665, 0006674, 0006682, 0006704, 0007612, 0008169, 0008069, 0008146, 0007919, 0008365, 0008512, 0008784, 0008136, 0007229, 0007942, 0008226, 0008283, 0008318, 0008763, **Hagaribommanhalli** 08397-239003 **FEDGL0100**0006165, 0006173, 0006177, 0006184, 0006185, 0006186, 0006187, 0006193, 0006206, 0006212, 0006219, 0006236, 0006252, 0006255, 0006268, 0006272, 0006274, 0007708, 0008384, 0008419, **FEDBD0100**0000013, **HANSUR** 08222 250114 **FEDGL0162**0014310, 0014352, 0014416, 0014419, 0014421 **Harappanahalli** 8398281429 **FEDGL0104**0006345, 0006352, 0006357, 0006391 **HARIHAR** 08192-242865 **FEDGL0022**0011578, 0011593, 0011594, 0011611, 0011622, 0011637, 0011642, 0012269, 0012291 **HASSAN MARKET** 08172 235324 **FEDGL0157**0009343, 0009361, 0009375, 0009404, 0009412, 0009422, 0009424 **HAVERI** 8375232810 **FEDGL0181**0008616, 0008619, 0008630, 0008634, 0008639, 0008647, 0008652 **HENNUR** 080-41979377 **FEDGL0015**0003709, 0003711, 0004355, 0004258, 0004356, 0004259, **Holenarsipura** 08175-273733 **FEDGL0059**0015579, 0015592, 0015599, 0015615, 0015628, 0015631, 0015674, 0015693, 0015706, 0015710, 0015717, 0015731, 0015752, 0016918, 0016932, 0016935 **HOSA ROAD** 080-257444811 **FEDBD0002**0000029, 0009946, 0011612, 0011017, 0011797, 0011911, 0012084, **Hosadurga** 8199200023 **FEDGL0412**0003057, 0002910, 0003790, **Hospet** 08394-226899 **FEDGL0099**0004998, 0005000, 0005053, 0005063, 0005073, 0005617, 0005625, 0005637, 0004994, 0007055, 0005030, 0006449, 0006671, 0006547, 0007010, 0006695, 0006055, 0006940, 0007462, **FEDBD0099**0000037 **JEEVAN BHEEMA NAGAR** 080 41900283 **FEDGL0019**0002656, 0002662, 0002669 **K R NAGAR** 08223 262045 **FEDGL0161**0009245, 0009266, 0009277, 0009282, 0010415, 0010452 **K R Pete** 08230-262886 **FEDGL0063**0005497, 0005498, 0005506, 0005507, 0005510, 0005518, 0005520, 0005533, 0005541, 0005546, 0005555, 0005557, 0005558, 0005563, 0005564, 0005568, 0006986, 0006713, 0007172, 0007583, **K R PURAM** 080 25610669 **FEDGL0012**0010803, 0010806, 0010817, 0010818, 0010820, 0010827, 0010849, 0010855, 0010887, 0010888, 0010890, 0010891, 0010892, 0011278, 0010807, 0012227, 0011992, 0011904, 0011991, 0012096, 0012306, 0012509, **FEDDS0012**0000028, **K R ROAD** 8192272223 **FEDGL0037**0004237, 0004251, 0004253 **Kadur** 08267-200280 **FEDGL0487**0000545, 0000548, 0000549, 0000573, 0000574, 0000575, 0000576, 0000577, 0000592, 0000602, 0000605 **KAMMANAHALLI** 080 40926572 **FEDGL0005**0003437, 0003666, 0003668, 0003675, 0004134, 0003954, 0004530, **Kampli** 08394-250822 **FEDGL0095**0005269, 0005274, 0005280, 0005293, 0005299, 0005301, 0005303, 0005307, 0005310, 0005322, 0005323, 0006795, 0006852, 0006800, 0006632, **Kappogal Road Bellary** 08392-255005 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0005940, 0005942 **Srinivasa Nagar** 080-26693369 **FEDGL0089**0003005, 0003788, 0003413, 0003313, 0003710 **SULTHANPLYA** 080 41636281 **FEDGL0013**0004184, 0004185 **Tarikere** 08261-200233 **FEDGL0415**0000810, 0000835, 0001282 **Tiptur** 8134252402 **FEDGL0047**0006860, 0006902 **Turuvekere** 8139295735 **FEDGL0386**0002009, 0002013, 0002021, 0002028, 0002059, 0002061, 0002074, 0002076, 0002082 **Yeshwantpur** 8041225684 **FEDGL0034**0003025, 0003438, 0003439, 0003782, 0003772, 0004494, 0004679, 0004203, 0004047, 0004500, 0004210, 0003997, 0004534, 0004242, 0003916, 0004246, 0004331, 0004453, 0004502, 0004806, 0004873, 0004941

Change in Venue or Date, if any will be displayed on our Website www.fedfina.com. All bidders participating will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit at the base branch wherein the ornaments were pledged by the customer or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before 17-05-2023 subject to the terms and condition applicable.

Auction will be conducted at respective branches, in case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level branch after displaying the details on our Website. No further communication shall be issued in this regard.

Dated : 08-05-2023 **For, sd/- Authorised Signatory**
Place : Karnataka **Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client Sri Ananda .G S/o late Govindappa, aged about 47 years, R/at No. 207, Guniagrahara Road, Lakshmipura, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru - 560 097, has intended to purchase the land bearing **Sy.No.54/3 measuring 0-16 guntas,** situated at **Shivakote village,** Hesarghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now Yelahanka Taluk, from Sri Shamanna and his three children viz., (i) Sri Anandkumar, (II) Smt. Anith S. @Anitha Shamanna, (iii) Smt. Asha Shamanna, respectively. The said land is more fully described in the schedule hereunder. The general public is hereby informed that anyone having objection for the said transaction, he/she/they is/are instructed to submit their objections before me along with all documents in support of such claims within **15 (fifteen) days** from today. In the absence of any objections received within the stipulated period, it would be deemed there is no objection from anyone and my client will proceed with the sale transaction and registration of deed in respect of the Schedule Land.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **Sy.No.54/3 measuring 0-16 guntas,** situated at **Shivakote Village** Hesarghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now Yelahanka village, Taluk, Bounded on : **East by:** Land of Edigara Hanumanthappa, **West by:** Land of Gangaiah, **North by:** Lands of G. Shamanna, **South by :** Land of Hanumathaih

B.L. LINGARAJU, Advocate
No. 18, 1st floor, Sri Anantha Ashrama Building, 4th Cross, 6th Main, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru- 560009.
Mob: 93433 68316

IN THE COURT OF THE VII ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE C.C.H No. 19
P & S.C. No.139 / 2023

PETITIONERS: (1) **Mrs. SHASHIKALA K.,** Aged about 61 years, W/o. late P. Murali Manohar, Aadhaar No.7669 9619 6266.
(2) Mr. AKHILESH M., Aged about 31 years, S/o. late P. Murali Manohar, Aadhaar No.8145 3658 4111. Both are residing at No.1007, 1st Floor, 9th Main, 3rd Cross, Srinivasas Nagar, Banashankari, Bangalore – 560 050.
RESPONDENTS: NIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the Petitioners have filed the above Petition seeking to issue Succession Certificate in favour of Petitioner No.1 on behalf of Petitioner No.2 in respect of the amounts mentioned in the Schedule hereunder and the same is pending before the Hon'ble VII Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge, Bangalore. Any person interested and having any objection in this matter, may appear before the Hon'ble Court on 12.06.2023, at 11.00 A.M. to which date the Case is posted for hearing.

SCHEDULE

The Share Certificates issued by ITC Limited (Incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, 1882) having its registered office at Virginia House 37 J.L. Nehru Road, Kolkata – 700 071, India standing in the name of late Murali Manohar P. mentioned hereunder;

Sl. No.	Registered Folio Number	Certificate Number	Number of Shares
1.	29/14054 issued on 28.09.2005	62211 (100335031 - 100335390)	360
2.	29/14054 issued on 05.10.2005	128436 (2553600661 - 2553600840)	180
3.	29/14054 issued on 06.08.2010	195352 (3924613358 - 3924613897)	540
4.	29/14054	264859 (8114258065 - 8114258604)	540

The present value of the shares is Rs.6,27,993/-(Rupees Six Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Three Only) as on 14.02.2023 together with accrued interest as on the date of closure.
Given under my hand and Seal of the Court this 20th day of April 2023.

Sunitha Sharma, Advocate,
No.2380, 13th Main, 'A' Block,
2nd Stage, Subramanya Nagar,
Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560 010.

By Order of the Court
Court of the VII Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge, Bangalore

EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD

Formerly Known as Equitas Finance Limited
Regd. Office: No.769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II,
Anna Salai, Chennai, TN - 600 002. Ph : 044 - 4299 5000 / 044 - 4299 5050

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR THE SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Under SARFAESI Act, 2002, r/w Rule 8(6) & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers, Co borrowers and Guarantors that the below described immovable property/ies mortgaged to the Secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd., will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS" "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"** on **29/05/2023** for recovery of **Rs.1,33,97,039/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Three Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand and Thirty Nine Only)** as per Demand Notice U/s. 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002, with further interest from 20/08/2022 with monthly rest, charges and costs etc., **(Total Outstanding being sum of Rs.1,52,01,983/- as on 04/05/2023)** due to Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd., from **1.Ms.RATNA BAI, Proprietor-AVINASH SILKS,** 3rd Floor,No.23, Shubham Mishra Nivas, Sanjeevappa Lane, Cubbonpet Cross, Bangalore – 560002. **2.Ms.RATNA BAI,** W/o.Uttam Chand, No.3/303, Moudgal Home, No.6, Upper Pipe Lines, P.12/20, Kumara Park, Bangalore – 560020. **3.Mr.KIRTIKUMAR SHAH,** S/o.Uttamchand Shah, No.3/303, Moudgal Home, No.6, Upper Pipe Lines, P.12/20, Kumara Park, Bangalore – 560020. **4.Mr.AMIT SHAH,** S/o Mr. Uttamchand Shah No.28/1, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road, Near Anand Co-op Bank, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore – 560020. **5.Mr.UTTAMCHAND SHAH,** S/o.Tarachand Shah No.3/303, Moudgal Home, No.6, Upper Pipe Lines,P.12/20, Kumara Park, Bangalore – 560020.

Date & Time of E-Auction

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • MAY 08, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Eight killed in shooting at crowded Texas mall

At least eight others, including a child, were injured as a gunman opened fire at Allen Premium Outlets in Allen, Texas. A heavily armed man stormed the complex filled with weekend shoppers and opened fire indiscriminately around 3.30 pm on Saturday. A police officer who was at the scene gunned down the attacker, limiting the number of casualties. Police have not disclosed the identity of the attacker. A local hospital said it was treating people aged 5 to 61

Shah: Will win 15 seats more than halfway mark

'Central schemes have helped 70L families'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

UNION Home Minister **Amit Shah**, who is campaigning extensively across Karnataka, is confident of BJP winning the May 10 Assembly elections and returning to power in the state for the second consecutive term.

In an exclusive interview with *The New Indian Express*, he said, "We will win a minimum of 15 seats more than the halfway mark (113). The reason for this is that during four years of our government, we have been implementing Modiji's programmes on the ground successfully. That has created a class of beneficiaries of all Central government programmes. Even if you remove overlapping, it will be around 70 lakh families (who have benefited from government schemes). All traditional calculations that look at the movement of Vokkaligas or Lingayats or Kurabas will be proved wrong."

Shah said he is involved in all the elections in the last nine years and almost all surveys predict a defeat for BJP.

"That is because the club of thinkers and those who work on the ground are different." The club of thinkers defeats us, but the team that works on the ground ensures the party's victory, he added confidently.

On BJP's strategy of denying tickets to many seniors and fielding new faces, apparently to beat anti-incumbency, he said that in the last 10 elections, the party has always changed 30 per cent of its candidates.

Asked whether Lingayats are moving away from BJP, he replied in the negative and said both former chief minister Jagadish Shettar and former deputy chief minister Laxman Savadi, who are Lingayats and have quit the saffron party to join Congress, will lose by a big margin.

"Take it from me. Shettar's margin of defeat will be double the margin of his victory (in the last election) as Hubballi always voted for BJP and not any individual. Hubballi is our fortress," he added.

When pointed out that Karnataka has never voted a party to power for the second consecutive term, he said a similar trend was seen in UP, Assam and Manipur. "We broke those records. That is our record and that is why we are confident."

FULL INTERVIEW: P7

RIDING A WAVE?

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi rides pillion on the scooter of a delivery executive in Bengaluru on Sunday. The duo travelled from Raj Bhavan Road to M Chinnaswamy Stadium | EXPRESS

Anyone promoting enmity, hatred will face action: Kharge

DKS: I'm a Vokkaliga, blood thicker than water

Predicting that Congress will win 141 seats, KPCC president DK Shivakumar in an interview with **TNIE** said the party has to abide by AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's decision on CM's post. Asked about Old Mysuru, he said, "I am a Vokkaliga, and blood is thicker than water." **P4**

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

REFERRING to the proposed ban on Bajrang Dal if Congress comes to power, AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge said Congress is clear in its manifesto that decisive action as per law will be taken against anyone promoting enmity or hatred.

He said, "We are against all kinds of fundamentalism. Visit my earlier constituency, Gurmitkal from where I was elected eight times consecutively. I had ensured that we build a Hanuman temple in every village."

Asked if his venomous snake comment against PM Narendra Modi will affect Congress' prospects adversely in the Assembly polls, he said, "I have been in public life for almost 60 years and have consistently fought against the divisive ideology of BJP and RSS. My attack and fight are never personal. I was referring to the polarising and divisive ideology BJP and RSS and clarified it in the next rally. People of Karnataka and elsewhere understood it. But the PM chose to cry about it instead of talking about issues Kannadigas are battling with. Modi's attempt to use it for political mileage didn't work."

Asked if the party is scared about Operation Lotus poaching Congress MLAs after the poll and whether that was the reason party senior leader Rahul Gandhi demanded a large majority instead of a simple majority, he said, "No Congressman or woman is scared. The word fear doesn't exist in our party workers' dictionary – and certainly not in Rahulji's. We are asking for a comfortable majority so that the government remains stable and we can roll out all our poll promises."

FULL INTERVIEW: P4

Local residents and fire and rescue personnel engaged in rescue operations at Tanur, Malappuram | EXPRESS

21 die in Kerala boat tragedy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Malappuram

AT least 21 people, including six children, were killed when an overcrowded tourist boat sank in Poorapuzha river in Tanur in Kerala's Malappuram district on Sunday evening.

Rescue workers said the houseboat carrying around 35 tourists, against its sanctioned capacity of 20, overturned during a joyride around 7 pm. The operator had permission to run the service only till 6 pm.

According to survivors, the boat swayed and suddenly overturned trapping the tourists underneath the vessel. It is said there were not enough life jackets. Fishermen said the river is deep at the accident spot and rescuing the people who were caught underneath the boat was tough. Tanur municipal chairman PP Shamsudheen said the private party operating the boat carried more people than allowed. "That was the reason for the accident."

Many of those who died were women and children who had come for a ride amid the ongoing school vacations. PM Narendra Modi has condoled the deaths and announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh to the next of kin of each victim.

Didn't want to contest against Siddu: Somanna

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

"I WANTED to retire from electoral politics by vacating the Govindarajanagar constituency (Bengaluru) for my son Dr Arun Somanna, but the party high command directed me to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar constituencies. I did not have any intention of contesting against Siddaramaiah," said Housing Minister V Somanna here on Sunday.

Speaking to the media, he said he is 72 years old and has contested 11 elections and lost three. "I wanted to retire from electoral politics with grace and had requested the party high command to field my son from Govindarajanagar. But destiny had other plans. The party instructed me to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar," he said. **P6**

EXPRESS READ

7 injured in explosion near Golden Temple

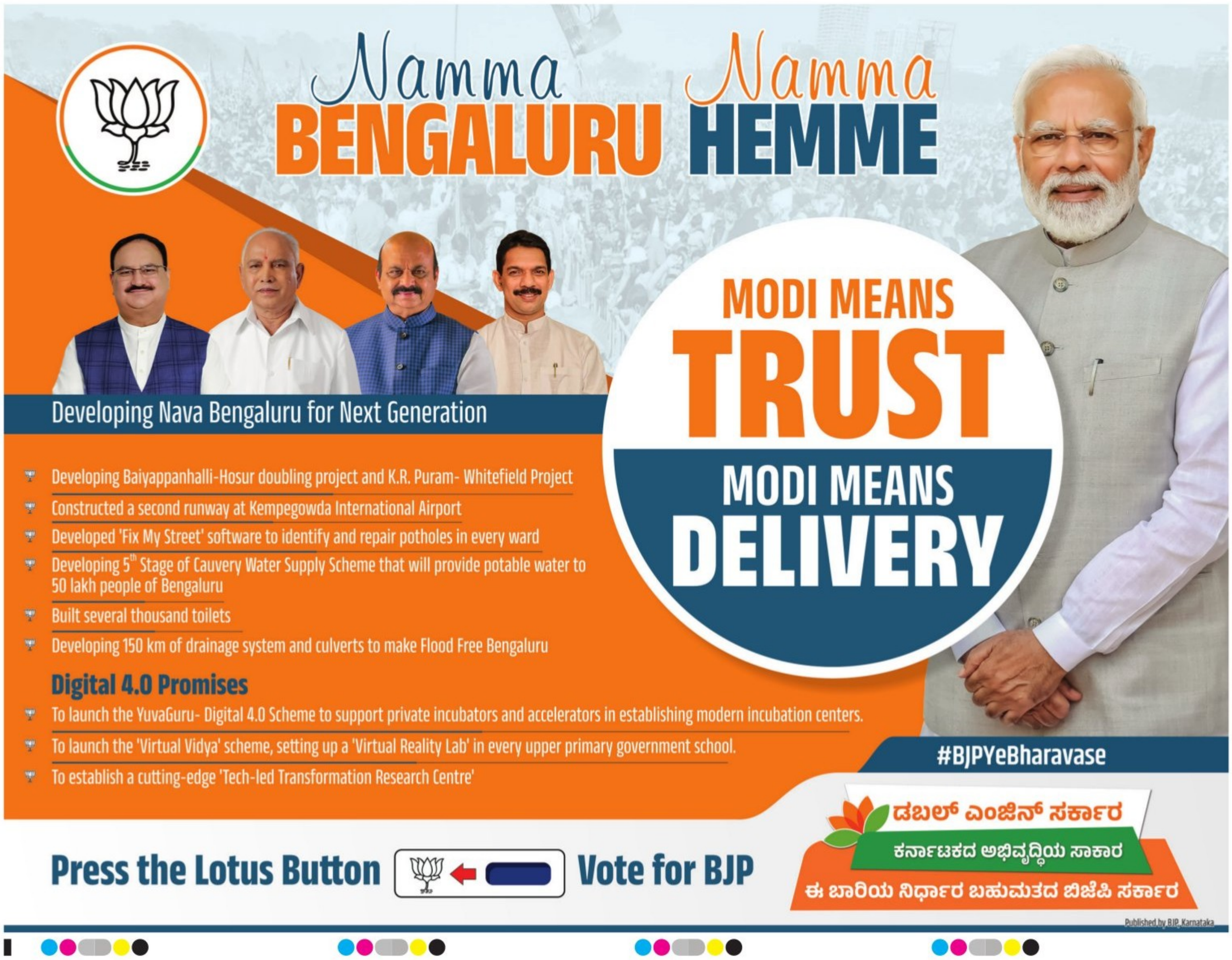
Amritsar: Seven people were injured and glass facades of some buildings were damaged in an explosion on a heritage street near the Golden Temple, police said. The explosion, the cause of which is not yet known, was reported near an eating joint Saturday night. The blast was heard nearly a kilometre away from the Golden Temple. **P12**

SSLC examination results out today

Bengaluru: SSLC exam results will be declared on Monday. Candidates can access their results on kseab.karnataka.gov.in and karresults.nic.in. The KSEAB director said a press meet will be held at 10 am on Monday. **P8**

Mysuru Dasara star elephant Balarama dies

Bengaluru: Elephant Balarama of Mysuru Dasara fame passed away on Sunday evening due to age-related ailments. He was 67. He was also suffering from various infections and had abstained from eating for a long time. **P9**


Namma BENGALURU
Namma HEMME
Developing Nava Bengaluru for Next Generation
Developing Baiyappanhalli-Hosur doubling project and K.R. Puram- Whitefield Project
Constructed a second runway at Kempegowda International Airport
Developed 'Fix My Street' software to identify and repair potholes in every ward
Developing 5th Stage of Cauvery Water Supply Scheme that will provide potable water to 50 lakh people of Bengaluru
Built several thousand toilets
Developing 150 km of drainage system and culverts to make Flood Free Bengaluru
Digital 4.0 Promises
To launch the YuvaGuru- Digital 4.0 Scheme to support private incubators and accelerators in establishing modern incubation centers.
To launch the 'Virtual Vidya' scheme, setting up a 'Virtual Reality Lab' in every upper primary government school.
To establish a cutting-edge 'Tech-led Transformation Research Centre'
MODI MEANS TRUST
MODI MEANS DELIVERY
#BJPYeBharavase
ಡಬಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಸಾಕಾರ
ಈ ಬಾರಿಯ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಬಹುಮತದ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
Press the Lotus Button Vote for BJP
Published by BJP, Karnataka

INTERVIEW

'Cong wants to create peaceful environment for the young'

DECISIVE action will be taken against whosoever promotes enmity or hatred, as per law. We are against all kinds of fundamentalism, **AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge** tells **Bansy Kalappa**, speaking on the ban on the Bajrang Dal, mentioned in the Congress manifesto, and a host of other issues.

Any win is a great boost for not just our people, but also our fight against fascists. It motivates the leaders and cadre, and boosts our morale in other states

Mallikarjun Kharge, AICC President

With the Bajrang Dal ban, did the Congress concede full toss to the BJP in the slog overs?
Firstly, we have mentioned in our manifesto that whoever promotes enmity or hatred, decisive action will be taken against them, as per law. Secondly, antisocial elements have been accused of violence, including the death of one of BJP's own workers in Karnataka. Even when their own workers are affected, the BJP refused to take action. Recently, they ransacked a hotel in Shivamogga, former CM Yediyurappa's home district. Police was forced to mediate, rather than act against moral policing. We are a progressive state and believe in the principles of Basavanna. In my earlier constituency, Gurmitkal, I had ensured we build a Hanuman temple in every village. Common people know the special place a Hanuman temple occupies. Congress is focused on creating a peaceful environment for our youth. Do we expect foreign investment to come to Tier 2 cities where rule of law doesn't apply?

Is the poisonous snake comment going to recoil on the Congress?
I have been in public life for almost 60 years, and consistently fought the divisive ideology of the BJP and RSS. My fight is never personal. I was referring to the polarising and divisive ideology of the BJP and RSS, and clarified it at the next rally. People of Karnataka and elsewhere understood it, but the Prime Minister chose to cry about it instead of talking about real issues. But his attempt to gain political mileage didn't work.

PM Modi said Congress is opposing The Kerala Story...
The PM is making irrelevant and baseless comments. He has all the time to watch a movie and take up election campaigns, despite many issues of national security that need urgent attention. Also, women wrestlers who won Olympic medals have been sitting on a protest for months, but he has no time. The NCRB has said 40,000 women have gone missing from Gujarat in the past five years.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar said he would like to work under you as chief minister. Does it mean you plan to return to the state?
The party has entrusted me with a bigger responsibility and that's my focus. We have to win this election. There is no tug of war for the CM's position, as imagined or desired by the BJP and media. On the contrary, I would like to commend the state leadership for taking on the election campaign in a unified manner.

There have been complaints about the misuse of ED, IT and other Central agencies in this election. Does it bother you?
India has seen the most blatant misuse of institutions and agencies over the past nine years. There are clearly two sets of rules -- one for those in power and another for opposition leaders. The moment a person defects to the BJP, all cases against that person are put on hold. Even the media is silent about the abuse of officers and institutions for political vendetta. One day, this government will go but the institutions and officers will still be around. Our challenge will be to make them objective and apolitical again.

Congress candidates are complaining about rebels...
Your question is surprising, because the situation on the ground is very different. It's the BJP which is facing a huge rebel problem. Even the PM was making calls to people to prevent rebellion.

How will these polls impact elections due later this year in MP, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh?
Any win is a great boost for not just our people, but also our fight against fascists. It motivates the leaders and cadre, and boosts our morale in other states. Karnataka will also give us a great chance to showcase our governance model.

How will the polls impact your tenure as AICC president?
Every president who occupied this prestigious office before me or those after me, will want as many victories as possible. During Soniaji's tenure, Congress numbers rose from just 3 states to 18 states.

Rahul Gandhi said a large majority is necessary. Is the Congress scared about Operation Kamala?
No Congressman or woman is scared of anything. The word fear doesn't exist in our dictionary, and certainly not in Rahulji's. We are asking for a comfortable majority so the government remains stable and we can comfortably roll out all our poll promises.

Are you working on taking advantage of Lingayats' disaffection for BJP?
The Congress doesn't address or engage with people on the basis of their community or religion.

'Kharge will take his own call on CM's post'

KPCC President DK Shivakumar is confident the Congress has got its election strategy right this time, and tells **Devaraj B Hirehalli** he will go with the high command's decision on the chief minister.

What is your poll prediction?
My number is exactly 141 for the Congress, as of today. The affection that people showered on me when I was on state tour, in Tihar Jail, while taking oath as KPCC president, was marvellous and will reflect in the outcome. Sonia Gandhi gave me an opportunity and I worked hard, having faith in the Gandhi family, and want the party to return to power.

Will you be the natural choice for CM's post? What about AICC president Mallikarjuna Kharge becoming CM?
We are going with a collective leadership, whether it is a natural choice or MLAs' election of CM, we should ultimately abide by the high command's decision. The entire Congress, across the country, is working under Kharge, and his elevation as AICC president has helped us. He will take his own call on the CM's post.

Old Mysuru is still a JDS stronghold. Will Vokkaligas back you as well?
Have faith in farmers and the change is visible. Last time JDS defeated candidate Devaraju in KR Pete, now former MLAs Shivalingegowda of Arasikere and SR Srinivas of Gubbi joined us. But more than caste, we believe in principles. The Vokkaliga community feels that an opportunity should be given to me, as given to other leaders in the past. Nobody can deny that I am a Vokkaliga, and blood is thicker than water.

Union Minister Smriti Irani said DK Shivakumar will never become CM. Your enemies expect you to go to jail?
I congratulate her for admitting that the Congress will come to power. My enemies expected me to go to jail. I don't say their wish is wrong.

What is your take on the Bajrang Dal ban issue?
Ours is a political party that wishes our state and country to be at peace. Why is Sri Rama Sene banned in Goa? Those who disturb peace will face action, that's all we have to say.

Will Kanakapura be a cakewalk for you?
Politics is like farming. People groomed me as their son, and I too have responded to them. It is not one-day magic as I put in consistent efforts.

Modi branded JDS as Cong's B-team, what is your take?
It is Modi's strategy as he is clever. Despite JDS having six MLAs in Mandya district when he went there to campaign, he did not utter a word about JDS. Why didn't he speak about JDS then? We were able to understand their design and also about fielding candidates.

What do you feel about BJP fielding Ashoka against you, and Somanna against Siddaramaiah?
BJP has tried it because of a dearth of leadership. Wish them all the best, they were expecting Modi and Shah magic as there's no more Bommai magic. Kanakapura will decide whether it wants Shivabhakta Shivakumar or Ashoka Chakravarthy. Siddaramaiah will win Varuna hands-down, as I believe people will not let him down.

How is coastal Karnataka for Congress?
The situation has changed completely as people have realised BJP plays with their emotions. The GIM in Mangaluru did not attract even Rs 500 crore in investments. The educational hubs of Shivamogga, Mangaluru, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada and Malnad are losing out on investment as people opt for Dubai, Bengaluru and Mumbai.

How many seats of 28 will Congress win in Bengaluru?
We will win 20. The way people of Bengaluru are being harassed, pickpocketed with no development of the city, they are frustrated. The Modi roadshow was a nightmare for residents.

Will the minorities back you to the hilt, BJP says you are appeasing them...
You can calculate it through the seats we win on May 13. They were made to bleed like never before, post Independence. They will show it through the ballot, which is stronger than a bullet. Can we scare them away from the country? Or change the Constitution? We gave ourselves the Constitution, which is our Bible, Koran, Bhagavad Gita, Basavanna's vachanas.... and RSS and BJP should also follow it.

Rahul: Is Centre taking a cut from 40% commission?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday asked whether the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government has been taking cuts from the 40 per cent corruption earnings in the Karnataka government led by chief minister Basavaraj Bommai.

"Even a six-year-old knows about 40 per cent commission. But Modi has not taken any action nor sent anybody to jail as his government might also be taking a cut from the commission to the tune of Rs 1,500 crore. The PM, otherwise, would have done something," he said, addressing a public rally at Shivajinagar. He mocked Modi's Mann ki Baat, saying it is one-sided and the PM never lends his ears to people's problems. "But during my Bharat Jodo Yatra, I listened to a cross-section of people and the outcome is the guarantees, including Rs 2,000 per month for every housewife and free travel in buses for women," he said.

At Anekal, he said, "Manipur violence is the result of hate politics. The Bharat Jodo Yatra was undertaken against this very concept of hate politics."

He said he wished to hold at least one rally along with his younger sister Priyanka Gandhi in Karnataka, but missed it due to rain. She was campaigning at Mahadevapura and could not join her brother.

On the last day of public campaigning, thousands of Congress supporters attended the public meeting at Chandni Chowk in the Shivajinagar Assembly constituency. Shalini P, a 2nd PUC student who had come from Ulsoor, said, "I am poor and traveling by bus to college and work will not cost money if guarantees are implemented. Plus my mother will get financial assistance of Rs 2,000."

Tanu P from MV Garden in Ulsoor ward said her family voted for BJP in the past. "Our family was impressed by protests against gas and petrol price hikes," she added. Uday Kumar, manager at St Mary's Basilica Church, said the speeches were interesting. "Rahul speaks sense. In case they form the government and they don't implement the guarantees within 3 years, people will stop believing Rahul," he added.

Party candidate Rizwan Arshad said he has transformed Shivajinagar, contained goondaism, made the dirty area clean and he will do more if elected again.

RaGa rides pillion with delivery boy around B'luru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IF Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode an open-top saffron car for his roadshow in Bengaluru, AICC former president Rahul Gandhi hopped on to a food delivery boy's bike and did the city rounds on Sunday. If Modi tried to interact with people by waving or gesticulating as they showered him with flowers, Rahul left behind his SPG protective ring and attempted to speak to the aam aadmi.

Rahul, who was travelling across the state with sister Priyanka Gandhi, was in Bengaluru on the last day of his campaign for the Karnataka polls. He interacted with gig workers at Airlines Hotel, off St Mark's Road, where they had masala dose and coffee. They discussed issued related to delivery workers, lack of stable employment and rising prices of basic commodities.

Rahul spoke about the corruption of the BJP government, the Congress' five-guarantee scheme, besides setting up a gig workers' welfare board with a corpus of Rs 3,000 crore, and minimum hourly wages for workers of the unorganised sector.

In a video, Rahul is seen leaving Airlines Hotel and stopping near a crowd where a young boy is crying, and consoles him. Then, in a seemingly impromptu act, he takes off on the bike of a food delivery agent, riding pillion and wearing a helmet. The duo traverse the CBD, from Raj Bhavan Road to Chinnaswamy Stadium and surrounding roads, the SPG right behind. Throughout the ride, covering a couple of kilometers, Rahul is seen chatting with the delivery partner, waving to the crowds and greeting them.

Even a six-year-old knows about 40 per cent commission. But Modi has not taken any action nor sent anybody to jail as his government might also be taking a cut from the commission to the tune of Rs 1,500 crore

Rahul Gandhi

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

08TH May: I'd like to pay tribute to all Virgoan people. They are bound to benefit from today's lunar alignments - but they could be a little more sensitive than usual. My advice is to be nice to them - and have them on your side. Treat them badly and they might not say anything, but treat them well and you will win a valuable ally.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Today's lively planetary picture could easily pass you by. However, once you start talking about your real feelings, or even dare to think about them, you may open the flood gates to a tide of emotion. Just watch out that you don't end up throwing money away in pursuit of false promises.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
There is a very high chance of a lucrative financial offer. Stop and think, though, for this is one of those times when a wonderful opportunity could vanish as fast as it appears. Opposition from partners should diminish as the day passes, so someone who has been bothering you may quietly slip away.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
This is a time for action but not for commitment. One possible course is to surrender to fate and allow circumstances to dictate the pace. This requires considerable courage, for you must learn to trust in the future. That's difficult I know, but it's essential.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The possibility of secret emotions and fantasies now seems to be at a height. There may be an element of deception, but very much more noticeable are your idealistic tendencies - including your admirable belief in a better world - and these should sustain you.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Your social stars are extremely powerful, and this is one of those times when, at your most extreme, you may fall in love one minute, and then out of love the next. At the very least you should be shuffling your friends and re-arranging engagements.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Keep a close watch on professional developments. A major opportunity will come and go very quickly, and it will be up to you to seize the moment. You may even have a chance to opt out of a commitment in which you always thought you were trapped. But do you really want to be free? That could be what you're about to find out.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
The urge to travel, or to be somewhere else, may be absolutely irresistible. If you have the freedom to take off at a moment's notice, do so. Otherwise you'll have to find whatever way you can to bring a little inspiration into your life. I'm sure you'll manage.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Money makes the world go around is one old familiar saying with fresh relevance. Another is 'money doesn't talk, it swears', which may sum up your mood today! The fact is, though, that a little careful forethought will avert any problem the stars can throw at you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
If today is all sweetness and light, you're missing out on something. But, if there should be any signs of imminent crisis, face up to them and get to grips with as many problems as you can. In so doing, you'll clear the air and lift a weight from your shoulders.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Much depends on your ability to cope with routine daily chores. The most you can expect from today's stars is the chance to change jobs, and the best advice you can be offered is to tackle overdue tasks before the pressure becomes irresistible. Oh, and keep financial pressures in perspective.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Be prepared to do a U-turn. In fact be prepared to do two! It's important that you have as much freedom as you need to change your mind and then change it back again. This is such an important time in your personal development that you can't be constrained by what other people think or expect.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
It may be difficult, but you have to decide who you love, where you want to live and also probably what you want to do for work. Important questions indeed, but nobody ever said that, having made up your mind, you should stick to your guns. Whatever you do today you can undo tomorrow!

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

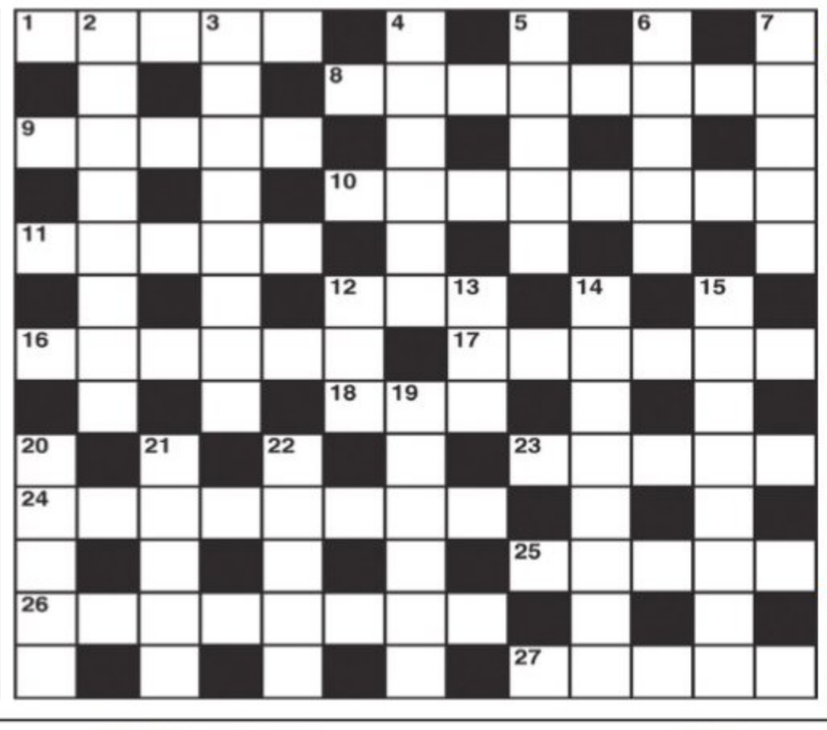
	9				6		1	
			8	3	1	5		
			9					8
						7	6	3
	2						4	
3	5	9						
6					9			
		8	3	1	7			
	1		4				3	

7	9	6	5	1	4	2	3	8
2	4	1	3	7	8	6	9	5
5	3	8	9	6	2	4	1	7
4	1	9	7	2	3	8	5	6
6	5	3	8	4	9	1	7	2
8	2	7	1	5	6	3	4	9
9	6	4	2	3	7	5	8	1
3	7	5	6	8	1	9	2	4
1	8	2	4	9	5	7	6	3

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 With us tea turns out to be fried (5)
8 Ratification contains error (8)
9 Found a sailor in the way (5)
10 Two things swindlers do give offence in court (8)
11 Supply the point before the joke (5)
12 Self-esteem for example comes before love (3)
16 Wrongly blamed for the uproar (6)
17 Soft - like currency perhaps? (6)
18 Purposeful employment? (3)
23 Shape altered a great deal (5)
24 Refuse to agree to project (5,3)
25 Ideas unusual in personal assistants (5)
26 Bought back, having had second thoughts? (8)
27 An eager crowd of reporters (5)

DOWN
2 Involved in a quest for relics of a bygone age (8)
3 Awful description of first Russian tsar (8)
4 Something lyrical about a redhead's garment (6)
5 Novelist and explorer (5)
6 Companies producing wood and paper for publication (5)
7 Tie the knot but untie again (5)
12 It cannot fly in the murky gloom (3)
13 Some modern poetry (3)
14 The mother of all lakes (8)
15 They employ various holds in their work (8)
19 Cup-holder (6)
20 It makes advances so costly (5)
21 Novelist of enduring quality (5)
22 Farewell notice that is given to union leader (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Shot-putter, 6 Enid, 10 Credo, 11 Albatross, 12 Perfecto, 13 Cairo, 15 Oedipus, 17 Lichens, 19 Tedious, 21 Corpses, 22 Forgo, 24 Relating, 27 Retention, 28 Alibi, 29 Shot, 30 Well-heeled.

Down: 1 Sack, 2 Open-ended, 3 Proof, 4 Trances, 5 Embroil, 7 Naomi, 8 Dispossess, 9 Stock car, 14 Coat of arms, 16 Profound, 18 Essential, 20 Sardine, 21 Colonel, 23 Ratio, 25 Trace, 26 Mind.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

SHOWE

SEDSR

PAAPER

CXEEUS

I can't believe they won't take credit cards. This isn't going to help my balance.
We just won't go out to eat next month.
$
ADVANCE
$100.00
3/10
SHE GOT AN ADVANCE ON HER CREDIT CARD AT THE ATM BECAUSE SHE WAS ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

_____ FOR _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: SHINY WITCH INDIGO FORGET
Answer: When they accessed an online dictionary on their new 4K monitor, it was — HIGH DEFINITION

The most corrupt party in the world, Congress, disabled the Lokayukta to continue corruption.

Congress created Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to protect the corrupt party members for its benefit by shutting down the popular and powerful Lokayukta.

The Congress party suddenly increased the project amount of most works by 35-50% and robbed the taxpayers' money. The murders, extortions and frauds that were going on unabated during the Congress rule have now come to an end.

They can't bear to see the massive support the BJP government is getting. The people should vote against the Congress party that happily carries on making false accusations.

DLF ಹಗರಣ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಬಸ್ನೇರುಘಟ್ಟ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಬೇಗೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲಾದ "DLF Westend Heights" ಎಂಬ ಬೃಹತ್ ವಸತಿ ಸಮುಚ್ಚಯಗಳ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣದ ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 850 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 33.37 ಎಕರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಕಬಳಿಸಿರುವ 'ಬೃಹತ್ ಭೂ ಕಬಳಿಕೆ ಹಗರಣ'ದ 2350 ಪುಟಗಳ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ – ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ. ಸೋನಿಯಾ ಗಾಂಧಿಯವರ ಅಳಿಯ 'ರಾಬರ್ಟ್ ವಾದ್ರಾ' ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ 17 ಮಂದಿ ಆಪಾತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು ಭೂಕ ಬಳಿಕೆ ನಿಗ್ರಹ ವಿಶೇಷ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, BMTF ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು.

ಹಾಗೂ 24 ಮಂದಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇಬ್ಬರು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೂರು.

200ಕೋಟಿ ಮೌಲ್ಯದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಡಿ–ನೋಟಿಫಿಕೇಷನ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಹಗರಣ'

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಪುರ ಗ್ರಾಮದ (ಈಗಿನ ಜಯನಗರ1ನೇ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್) 02 ಎಕರೆ39 ಗುಂಟೆ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನಕ್ಕೆಂದು ಮೀಸಲಾಗಿಟ್ಟಿದ್ದ ಜಾಗವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಭಾವಿ ದಲ್ಲಾಳಿ ಒಬ್ಬನಿಗೆ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯನವರು De – Notification ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಹಗರಣ.

ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಶಾಂಭವಿ, IAS ಅವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಿಗಳ ಸಹಿತ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು.

DLF ಹಗರಣ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಬಸ್ನೇರುಘಟ್ಟ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಬೇಗೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲಾದ "DLF Westend Heights" ಎಂಬ ಬೃಹತ್ ವಸತಿ ಸಮುಚ್ಚಯಗಳ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣದ ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 850 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 33.37 ಎಕರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಕಬಳಿಸಿರುವ 'ಬೃಹತ್ ಭೂ ಕಬಳಿಕೆ ಹಗರಣ'ದ 2350 ಪುಟಗಳ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ – ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ. ಸೋನಿಯಾ ಗಾಂಧಿಯವರ ಅಳಿಯ 'ರಾಬರ್ಟ್ ವಾದ್ರಾ' ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ 17 ಮಂದಿ ಆಪಾತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು ಭೂಕ ಬಳಿಕೆ ನಿಗ್ರಹ ವಿಶೇಷ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, BMTF ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು.

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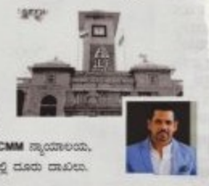


ಆರ್. ವಿ ದೇವರಾಜು 100 ಕೋಟಿ ಹಗರಣ ಸಿದ್ದಯ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ 5500 ಚ.ಅಡಿ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸ್ವತ್ತು ಕಬಳಿಕೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಸಿದ್ದಯ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ 100 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 5500 ಚ.ಅ ಗಳಷ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಕಬಳಿಸಿ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ.

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು. ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಆದೇಶದಂತೆ BMTFನಿಂದ FIR ದಾಖಲು.

HMT ಕಾರ್ಖಾನೆಗೆ ಸೇರಿದ 2000 ಕೋಟಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 161 ಎಕರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಕಬಳಿಸಿರುವ ಹಗರಣ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಡಿ. ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್, ಸಿದ್ಧಾರ್ಥ, ಮೋಟಮ್ಮ, ಜಯ್‌ಪಾಲ್ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ, ವಿಲಾಸ್‌ರಾವ್ ದೇಶ್‌ಮುಖ್ ರವರುಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಿಮಿನಲ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು. CBI ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು BMTF ನಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು.

ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತ ದುರ್ಬಲಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಎಸಿಬಿ ತಂದರು!

ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ವಿರುದ್ಧ, ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಸಚಿವರುಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಭ್ರಷ್ಟಾಚಾರದ ಆರೋಪಗಳು, ದೂರುಗಳು ಕೇಳಿ ಬಂದ ಹಿನ್ನಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವುಗಳಿಂದ ಪಾರಾಗಲು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಎಸಿಬಿ– ಭ್ರಷ್ಟಾಚಾರ ನಿಗ್ರಹ ದಳವನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದಿತು. ಎಸಿಬಿಗೂ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರವಿಲ್ಲ. ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಸೂಚನೆಯ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು! ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತಕ್ಕಿದ್ದ ಪರಮಾಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಕಸಿದುಕೊಂಡು ಎಸಿಬಿ ರಚಿಸುವ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಏನಿತ್ತು?! ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಎಂದಿಗೂ ಈ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗೆ ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ!

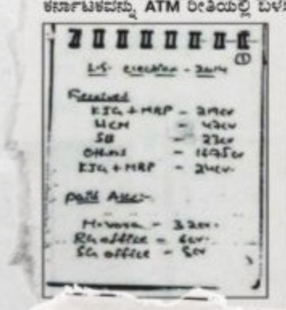
ಮುಖಪುಟ › ರಾಜಕೀಯ

'ಡಿಕೆಶಿ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಡೀಲ್ ಗಿರಾಕಿ, ಕೋಟಿ-ಕೋಟಿ ಡೀಲ್ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಾರೆ': ಕೆಪಿಸಿಸಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲೇ 'ಕೈ' ನಾಯಕರ ಗುಸು-ಗುಸು!

ಕೆಪಿಸಿಸಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಡಿ.ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಅವರಿಂದ ಕೋಟಿ ಕೋಟಿ ಡೀಲ್ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ, ಡಿಕೆ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ದುಡ್ಡೇ ದೊಡ್ಡಪ್ಪ, ಕಲೆಕ್ಷನ್, ಡೀಲ್ ಗಿರಾಕಿ, ಡಿಕೆಶಿ ಹುಡುಗರು ಬಳಿ 50 ರಿಂದ 100 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಇದೆ ಅಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ಇವರ ಬಳಿ ಎಷ್ಟಿರಬೇಡ ಎಂದು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ನ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಪ್ರಮುಖ ನಾಯಕರು ಬೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಮಾತನಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

Published: 13th October 2021 11:33 AM | Last Updated: 13th October 2021 02:58 PM

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವನ್ನು ATM ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಸಿದ್ದೆ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್



"ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ (ಐ) ಪಕ್ಷದ ಭೂ ಕಬಳಿಕೆ ಹಗರಣ"

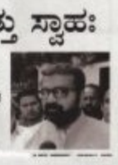
ಮಿಲ್ಲರ್ಸ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಬಂಡ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ KPCC ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಲಿಕೆಯಿರುSC / ST Graduates Association ಗೆ ಸುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮಿಡಿಯುವ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿನಲ್ಲಿ 12 ಕೋಟಿ ಮೌಲ್ಯದ 4,000 ಚ.ಅಡಿ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ಪಾರಿಕೆಯ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ (ಐ) ಪಕ್ಷದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ (ಐ) ಪಕ್ಷದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ BMTF ಮತ್ತು ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು

ಎನ್. ಎ. ಹ್ಯಾರಿಸ್ 150 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಹಗರಣ 12,000 ಚ. ಅಡಿ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸ್ವತ್ತು ಸ್ವಾಹಃ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: Queens ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಂತಿರುವ ಮಿಲ್ಲರ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಬಂಡ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 150 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 12,000 ಚದರ ಅಡಿಗಳಷ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸ್ವತ್ತು ಕಬಳಿಕೆ

ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಿಮಿನಲ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು.



ಕೆ.ಸಿ. ಕೊಂಡಯ್ಯ 500 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಹಗರಣ ಕೆಂಪೇಗೌಡ ಮಹಾರಾಜ ಮಾಲ್ ಕಬಳಿಕೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ ಕೆಂಪೇಗೌಡ ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸ್ವತ್ತಾಗಿರುವ ಸುಮಾರು 500 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 'ಕೆಂಪೇಗೌಡ ಮಹಾರಾಜ ಮಾಲ್' ಅನ್ನು ಸಕಲ ದಾಖಲೆ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸಿ ಕಬಳಿಸಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ದೂರು.

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು. ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಿಮಿನಲ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು. BMTF ನಿಂದ FIR ದಾಖಲು.

Home / India News / 'Only 15 paise reaches the needy': SC quotes Rajiv Gandhi in its Aadhaar ...

INDIA NEWS

'Only 15 paise reaches the needy': SC quotes Rajiv Gandhi in its Aadhaar verdict

In 1985, on a visit to drought-affected Kalahandi district in Odisha, Rajiv Gandhi had said that of every rupee spent by the government, only 15 paise reached the intended beneficiary.

Press Trust of India, New Delhi | By Press Trust of India
PUBLISHED ON JUN 11, 2017 05:52 PM IST

Rajiv Gandhi on the Sadbhavana Yatra on October 14, 1990.(HT Photo/ Arun

ಅರ್ಕಾವತಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ದಾಖಲೆ ಸಮೇತ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ

ಬಿಜೆಪಿಯ ಸುರೇಶ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್, ಸೋಮಣ್ಣ ನೇತೃತ್ವದ ಸಮಿತಿಯಿಂದ ವರದಿ | ಸುಪ್ರೀಂ, ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಆದೇಶ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘಿಸಿ 707 ಎಕರೆ ರೀ ಹು

ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ 5,800 ಕೋಟಿ ವಂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಸಚಿವಕೆ. ಜೆ. ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹೇಂದ್ರಜೈನ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ACB ಯಲ್ಲಿ, BMTF ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಸಚಿವ ಕೆ. ಜೆ. ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹೇಂದ್ರಜೈನ್ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೂರುಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

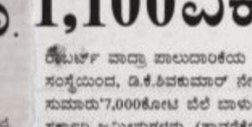
'ಅಮಾನ್ಯೀಕರಣಗೊಂಡ 410 ಕೋಟಿರೂಪಾಯಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಹಗರಣ' 'ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಒನ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ಹಗರಣ'

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಸಚಿವಕೆ. ಜೆ. ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಆಪ್ತ ವರ್ಗದವರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಒನ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ 1,000 ಮತ್ತು 500 ಮುಖ ಬೆಲೆಯ 410 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ನೋಟುಗಳನ್ನು ಅಕ್ರಮ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಹಗರಣ.

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ CBI ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಜಾರಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ, ACB ಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಚಿವ ಕೆ. ಜೆ. ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ರವರುಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೂರುಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

NUHM ಮತ್ತು NRHM ಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ 1463 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ಬೃಹತ್ ಹಗರಣ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವರದಿ: CBI, ACB ಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲು. ACMM ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಿಮಿನಲ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲು. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ದೂರು.



ಭದ್ರಾ ಮೇಲ್ದಂಡೆಯೋಜನೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ 158 ಕೋಟಿ ಹಗರಣ.

(ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರಯ್ಯ ಜಲ ನಿಗಮದ ಹಗರಣ)

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಜಲ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಚಿವ ಎಂ. ಬಿ. ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಶೆಟ್ಟರವರು ಮತ್ತು ಕೃಷ್ಣಮೂರ್ತಿ.

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ ACB ಯಲ್ಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂ. ಬಿ. ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಶೆಟ್ಟರವರು ಮತ್ತು ಕೃಷ್ಣಮೂರ್ತಿಯವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1,100ಎಕರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಭೂಕಬಳಿಕೆ ಹಗರಣ

ರಾಬರ್ಟ್ ವಾದ್ರಾ ಪಾಲುದಾರಿಕೆಯ ಆಪಾತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ, ಡಿ.ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು'7,000ಕೋಟಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳುವ 1,100 ಎಕರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು (ತಾವರೆಕೆರೆ ಪೋಬಳ, ಯಶವಂತಪುರ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ) ಸಕಲ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಿ ಕಬಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ವಿವರ ರಾಬರ್ಟ್ ವಾದ್ರಾ, ಆಪಾತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು ಮತ್ತು ಡಿ.ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ACB, BMTF, Income Tax (Investigation) Department, ಜಾರಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತದಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರುಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

2000 ಕೋಟಿ ಹಗರಣ ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚಿದ್ದರಾ ತಿವಾರಿ?

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಐಎಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ತಿವಾರಿ ಸಾವಿಗೆ ಹೊಸ ತಿರುವು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿನ ಹಗರಣ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಯುಪಿ ಸಚಿವ, ಸೋದರ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ

ಶತ ಸೋದರ 2000 ಕೋಟಿ ರು. ಮೌಲ್ಯದ ಹಗರಣ ಬಯಲಿಗೆಳೆಯಲು ನಿಷ್ಠೆಯಿಂದ, ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದ. ಆದರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಿರಿಯಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕಿರುಕುಳ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬೆದರಿಕೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದವು. ಇದೀಗ ಅವರನ್ನು ಜೈಲಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

• ಅಜಿತ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ತಿವಾರಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸೋದರ

The Corrupt Party depends on Lies, Fake Guarantees and Votebank politics.

Corrupt Party Corruption looted from many generations of Kannadigas.
These elections are the time to stop this Corrupt Party for good finally.

Published by BJP, Karnataka

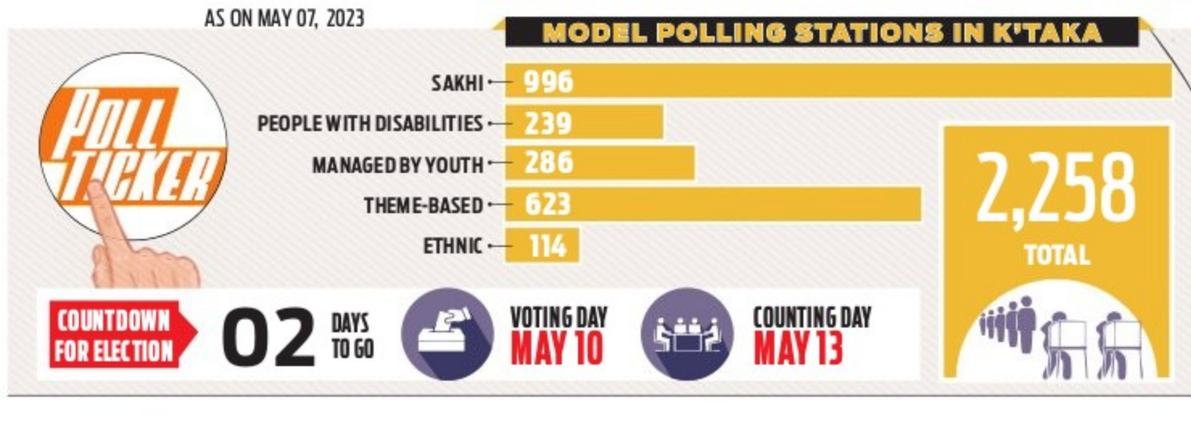
'Vote for BJP's Double Engine Sarkara'

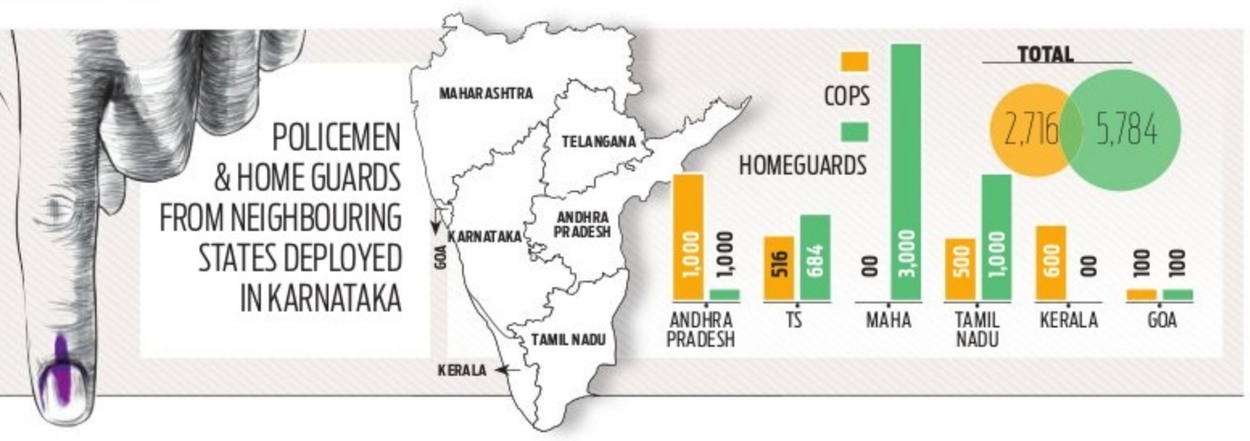
TWEETS OF THE DAY

Narendra Modi
Be it Yoga, Ayurveda or Indian spices, Congress never did anything to popularise them. We have changed this approach and the results are for everyone to see

Priyanka Gandhi
The message of Karnataka is clear and loud. The people are rejecting the 40% commission government as they have full faith in the Congress

Ashok Gehlot
I see Congress wave in K'taka because people are fed up of BJP's Jumlas. They want a party they can trust and that is why Cong guarantees have clicked so well





CONGRESS ADVOCATES SEPARATING KARNATAKA FROM INDIA, SAYS MODI

Prime Minister claims it is an insult to lakhs of Kannadigas who fought for the freedom of the country

(Left) Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets people during his roadshow in Bengaluru on Sunday; Folk artistes perform during the rally | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

PLAYING the 'nationalism'' card to turn people against Congress during his final election speech in Nanjangud, Prime Minister Narendra Modi came down heavily on the Grand Old Party, alleging that Congress is advocating to part Karnataka from India.

At a public meeting held at Elachagere village in Nanjangud taluk, where he had come to seek votes for the party's 17 candidates, he paid rich tributes to Suttur Mutt, Guru Malleshwara mutt of Devanuru and Adichunchanagiri mutt.

Without taking the name of former Congress chairperson Sonia Gandhi, who had said that her party will not let anyone pose a threat to Karnataka's reputation, sovereignty and integrity, Modi said, "Congress says it will protect the sovereignty of Karnataka. By saying that they are trying to take Karnataka away from India. I never thought Congress would stoop so low. This is an insult to lakhs of Kannadigas who fought for the freedom of the country and loss of national pride."

He said, "The royal family of Congress works against the interest of the country and secretly meets diplomats of countries which are against India. I urge the people of Karnataka not to give political oxygen to Congress."

On Congress announcing five guarantees ahead of polls, he said, "I question what happened to the 'Garibi Hatao' guarantee that they gave around five decades ago? Their biggest guarantee given by their top leader has become a big lie."

Taking a jibe at opposition leader Siddaramaiah, he alleged that the Congress leader speaks against Lingayats and OBCs and that Congress indulges in politics of appeasement to increase its political mileage.

He said India has come out of being a fragile economy to become the 5th largest economy in the world. "During this time, India made new records in exports and FDI. However, Karnataka was not able to take advantage of this when the Congress-JDS coalition was in power.

Buoyed by the crowd, Modi frequently used Kannada in his speech and sloganeered "Ee Baria Nirdhara, Bahumatada BJP Sarkara".

Continuing his tirade against Congress, Modi said be it Yoga, Ayurveda or Indian spices, Congress never did anything to popularise them. "We have changed this approach and the results are for everyone to see," he said.

PM Narendra Modi prays at the Srikanteshwara temple in Nanjangud, Mysuru district, on Sunday | KPN

PM covers 6.5km on Day 2, ends B'luru campaign blitz

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

ON Day 2 and the final day of his Bengaluru roadshow, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday covered 6.5km in 90 minutes in KR Puram, CV Raman Nagar, Shivajinagar and Shanthinagar Assembly constituencies.

The PM on Saturday held a massive roadshow covering 26km in 13 Assembly constituencies of Bengaluru.

While close to 8 lakh people witnessed the roadshow on Day 1, a few lakh people witnessed the second day's roadshow.

While it rained early in the day, it reduced a bit and later by the time the roadshow commenced at 10.15am, the rain had stopped completely. BJP Tamil Nadu state president Annamalai K, who is poll co-in-charge for the party in Karnataka, was seen monitoring the preparations.

Starting the roadshow by paying tribute to 'Nadaprabhu' Kempegowda at New Thippasandra in East Bengaluru, Modi travelled across main roads waving at people who had gathered on both sides to catch a glimpse of him. Joining him on the open vehicle was Bengaluru Central MP PC Mohan and Rajya Sabha member and Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrashekar. The roadshow went through 80 ft road and 12th Main Road Junction at HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, CMH Road, Old Madras Road and Ulsoor before concluding at Trinity Circle amid much fanfare.

Prithvi, a Class 9 student who was dressed like Lord Hanuman holding a mace, was seen waiting to see the PM. People welcomed the PM by raising slogans such as 'Modi Modi' and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' etc and also showered him with flower petals. Modi took the petals that had fallen on his vehicle and showered them back on the people multiple times.

There was a jubilant atmosphere all through the route with folk artistes dancing to different tunes and people taking selfies. Namma Metro came to the rescue of many people as thousands were seen alighting at Trinity station to reach the junction to see the PM. The roadshow, which was supposed to end at 11.30am, exceeded by just 10 minutes, and ended at 11.40am.

Hakki Pikkis share their Sudan tales with Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday interacted with the members of the tribal Hakki Pikki community who were evacuated from violence-hit Sudan under 'Operation Kaveri'. Among the Indian evacuees were at least 31 members of the community from Karnataka.

They expressed their gratitude to the PM and also shared the challenges they faced in Sudan and how the government and Indian Embassy helped them.

The Hakki Pikki community members felicitated Modi with a traditional garland and also sang their songs.

Interacting with them, the Prime Minister asked, "Where were you at the time? Were you all together or separated?" The community members said that they were staying in different hotels and could hear bombs exploding nearby.

Modi said that the government does not have peaceful sleep if any Indian is stuck abroad. "Some politicians were politicising the issue. We wanted to ensure that no Indian is harmed in Sudan. I'm happy that you have come out. This is the strength of the country and do not forget it," he said.

The Hakki Pikkis are a semi-nomadic community in Karnataka known for their traditional plant- and herb-based medicines and are also traditional bird-catchers.

JDS internal survey claims party likely to win 65-70 seats

CHETAN MG @ Bengaluru

THOUGH the Janata Dal (Secular) leaders claim that they will cross the halfway mark to form the next government in Karnataka, an internal survey conducted by the party has revealed that it is likely to win anywhere between 65 and 70 seats.

JDS sources said that party legislature party leader and former CM HD Kumaraswamy had conducted an analysis and had divided constituencies into two categories. "He had listed out 67 constituencies in which the party can surely win and another 40 where the party can win only by putting more effort. The tally had crossed 100," the source said.

With just few days left for polling day, JDS carried out an internal survey, which, however, brought down the numbers to 65-70, a party leader said. "We had won 37 seats in 2018... but as some MLAs resigned, our current strength is 29. As per the survey, we would regain the 37 seats. Also, we were defeated by a close margin of 400 to 2,000 votes at eight seats like Pavagada and Turuvekere. Similarly, there are 10 other constituencies, where the margin of defeat was 2,000-4,000 votes while in another 15 other seats, the margin was below 10,000 votes. We have focused more on those segments this time and intensified our campaign there," the leader explained, adding that the survey has increased the hopes in many of these constituencies.

Besides, the party has given tickets to 27 candidates who left BJP and Congress and the survey predicts that at least 50% of them stand a strong chance of winning. "The number of constituencies where we lost by a close margin is 33 while we have fielded 27 candidates who came from other parties. Both put together has 60 segments in total. Even, if we win half of them, which is 30, our tally would be between 65-70," the leader said.

WILL BAN LIQUOR IF PEOPLE WANT IT: HDK

BENGALURU: Former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy said he will completely ban the sale of liquor in the state if people wish for it. He was campaigning in Doddaballapura on behalf of JDS candidate B Munegowda on Sunday. Kumaraswamy charged that the achievement of the BJP government was extending the sale of alcohol even at villages across the state. "If people wish, I will order a blanket ban on the sale of liquor in the state if JDS is voted to power," he added. **ENS**

SWEET MOMENT

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi shares a light moment with a boy as he interacts with a group of gig workers at a famous restaurant in Bengaluru on Sunday

Man held over fake Santhosh clip

MYSURU: Officers of Lakshmipuram police station arrested a man for allegedly peddling fake news by sharing a clip of BJP national general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh. A complaint was filed by one Niranjana Murthy, alleging that a doctored clip of Santhosh was circulated where he is heard saying, "We will continue with Hindutva, we don't want Lingayats." The accused has been sent to judicial custody. **ENS**

Upset over Santhosh, Lingayat forum gives a call to defeat BJP

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ BENGALURU

WITH assembly polls just a couple of days away, the Karnataka Lingayata Mattu Veerashaiva Vichara Vedike, a platform of thinkers from the dominant Veerashaiva Lingayat community, has given a call to its people to defeat the BJP. Though it is one of the many community platforms that has decided to back the Congress, it still comes as a shock for the saffron party which had the community's backing for decades.

The Vedike held a press conference, expressing anguish against BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) B L Santhosh for allegedly belittling the community at a meeting. Santhosh had stated that the BJP wants to continue with the Hindutva agenda and no longer has to appease the Veerashaiva Lingayat community. "It has hurt the feelings of the community and if he had not intended to make that statement, he should issue a clarification," said S R Nataraj, senior vice-president of the forum. It comes at a time when Suttur Mutt head Sri Shivarathrideshikendra Swami is abroad, and likely to return only on May 10. It may also have a bearing on Varuna and Chamarajanagar segments, where Housing Minister V Somanna, a Lingayat, is contesting.

Congress leaders Shamanur Shivashankarappa and Jagadish Shetter met Lingayat community seers in Hubballi on Sunday morning. Last week, party leader Rahul Gandhi had visited Sangamantha Temple, the samadhi of Basavanna.

With 48 hours left for the polls, the chief electoral officer, Karnataka, has issued the following guidelines

- Ban on unlawful assembly and prohibition on holding public meetings for 48 hours
- Restriction on the presence of political functionaries in a constituency after the campaign period is over
- No sale of alcohol in constituencies from 6pm on May 8 to May 10 till the completion of the election process
- No loudspeakers will be permitted for 48 hours
- No party or candidate shall include any activity which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred
- Critical polling stations to be covered by micro-observers, web-casting, CCTVs

I TOURED ALL VILLAGES IN VARUNA IN 20 DAYS: SOMANNA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

SOMANNA said three months ago, BJP national general secretary BL Santhosh visited his house and spoke to him. Later, he was invited to Adichunchanagiri Mutt to meet party central leaders where he was questioned on the development of Govindarajanagar. Later, he was asked to visit Delhi to meet the party high command.

"The party high command said they are giving a task for me to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar. I told them I am 72 years old and wanted to retire from politics with respect and dignity and asked for a ticket for my son. I did not know anything about Varuna, but within 20 days I toured all the villages in the constituency," he said. Asked whether refusing a ticket from Govindarajanagar and directing him to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar is punishment by the party high command for his poor performance in the constituency, Somanna said he did not know why central leaders made him contest from two seats.

Asserting that both Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah and his son Yathindra have represented the constituency for 15 years, but have not developed it, Somanna said he will develop the constituency on the lines of Govindarajanagar.

On actor Shivarajkumar campaigning for Siddaramaiah, the Lingayat leader said he is disappointed with the superstar's decision. "Dr Rajkumar is god for us. I have a good relationship with the family for 45 years. I am disappointed by Shivarajkumar's decision. Other actors, Loose Mada, Duniya Viji, Ramya are also campaigning for Siddaramaiah who had claimed that he will visit the constituency only to file nomination papers. Siddaramaiah is fearing defeat," he said.

Somanna said he requested Siddaramaiah to give him an opportunity to work for Varuna. "I assure Siddaramaiah that his name will also be mentioned in the projects initiated by me in the constituency. Even if Congress wins a majority, I am confident that the party will not make him chief minister," he said.

The party high command said they are giving a task for me to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar. I told them I am 72 years old and wanted to retire from politics with respect and dignity and asked for a ticket for my son — V Somanna, Housing Minister

'THE CLUB OF THINKERS DEFEATS US IN SURVEYS, BUT WE WIN ON THE GROUND'

SANTWANA BHATTACHARYA, RAMU PATIL & NAUSHAD BIJAPUR

UNION home minister Amit Shah, in the last leg of a hectic campaign that saw him on the ground in all parts of Karnataka, is confident of the BJP bucking the trend of pendulum swings and returning to power in the state. In an exclusive interview with *The New Indian Express*, Shah takes questions on a variety of themes with his usual air of assured authority. But the bottomline was the crucial inflection point of the May 10 Assembly polls, and how winning it will ensure the party's political entrenchment in South India. Excerpts:

What is your assessment of the situation on the ground in Karnataka on the last leg of electioneering?
We will win a minimum of 15 seats more than the half-way mark (113). The reason for this is that, during the four years of our government, we have been implementing Modiji's programmes on the ground successfully. That has created a whole class of beneficiaries of all Central government programmes. They are not being counted by those doing traditional political analysis based on castes, individuals and their clout. But I can see it very clearly in the meetings and public rallies across Karnataka.

Let me give you some numbers. The Jal Jeevan Mission, which provides tap water free of fluoride, has linked 43 lakh households. They will get water in their houses and women no longer have to walk with pots on their heads to fetch water. Similarly, toilets were built in around 48 lakh houses, which is a big source of succour for women. Four crore people got foodgrains free of cost, around 1.38 crore people got relief on healthcare expenditure with insurance, 37 lakh people got gas cylinders under Ujjwala and around four lakh people got houses. Even if you remove overlapping, the beneficiaries will by all means number around 70 lakh families. That is a big number. All traditional calculations that look at the movement of Vokkaligas or Lingayats or Kurubas will be proved wrong.

You are saying it will be social development, not economic or infrastructure development...
It is both social as well as economic development. If they had not got free foodgrains, a portion of their income would have been spent on purchasing food and the ₹3-4 lakh saved on health insurance would have been spent on medicines and treatment. That saving is invested in doing something new. They got toilets, water and gas at home, and their health improved, which resulted in their empowerment and increased their self-confidence. Many major projects were also taken up. Take the New Mangaluru Port Authority, at ₹3,800 crore; the 10-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, ₹8,000 crore; Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway, ₹17,000 crore; Bengaluru-Hyderabad Expressway, ₹31,000 crore; Bidar-Kalaburgi-Bellari road, ₹7,650 crore; South India's first Vande Bharat train; and the Shivamogga and Kalaburagi airports.

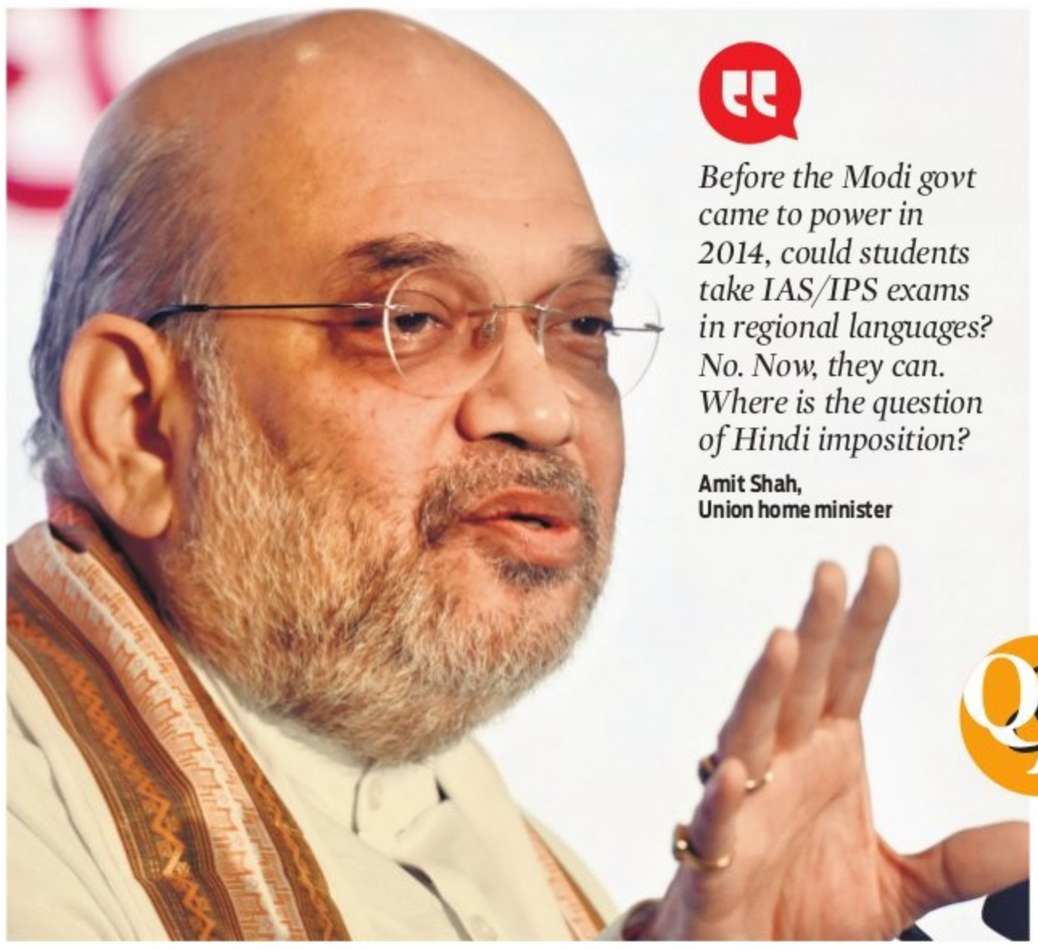
So, you think welfare policies plus development will bring you back to power with a substantial majority. But why are the surveys not reflecting it?
I have been involved in all elections in the last nine years and all the surveys have first defeated us: because the club of thinkers and those who work on the ground are different classes. The club of thinkers defeats us, but the team that works on the ground ensures our victory.

You speak about welfare, social upliftment and Direct Benefit Transfers. You and the Prime Minister have also spoken very strongly against what he calls the *revdi* culture or system of bribing the voters to get support...
There is a fundamental difference between the two. We don't give cash every month. We have given them a gas (connection) and they will purchase gas. We have provided the electricity connection; they pay the bill. We have built toilets and they will maintain them. We provided tap water; they pay tax to the panchayat. We provided health insurance, not cash. We have empowered them, not bribed them. Giving facilities free of cost is *revdi*. We don't do that.

Many seniors were denied tickets this time and new faces were fielded. Was it not to beat anti-incumbency at the ground level?
Take a look at the last 10 elections. We have always changed around 30% of our candidates. There is nothing new in it.

Many senior leaders, including Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi, left the party...
Shettar and Savadi left as the BJP is a party that takes a stand. Would they have left the party if we had given them tickets? That is not how the party operates. Savadi is an MLC till 2028. This Assembly will be up to 2028. Why should he contest polls? Why should another worker not contest, why should we do injustice to another worker? If you wanted to contest for the Assembly, you should not have taken the MLC ticket. And Shettar had himself decided he will not be part of Basavaraj Bommai's ministry as he is a senior. What will he do being just an MLA? He has contested elections six times. Let other workers come up.

Shettar and Savadi say prominent Lingayat leaders were suppressed and B S Yediyurappa was sidelined...
No one sidelined Yediyurappa. He himself had told me that there is a system in the party. He had crossed the age and needed to be replaced (as CM). Eight months after that, the party replaced him. Even now, Yediyurappa is addressing six rallies a day.



Before the Modi govt came to power in 2014, could students take IAS/IPS exams in regional languages? No. Now, they can. Where is the question of Hindi imposition?

Amit Shah, Union home minister

Do you see any threat of the Lingayats moving away from the BJP?
No. Savadi and Shettar will lose by a big margin. Take it from me. Shettar's margin of defeat will be double the margin of his victory (in the last election) as Hubli has always voted for the BJP and not any individual. Hubli is our fortress.

Why have you fielded ministers R Ashoka and V Somanna from two constituencies each? Don't you think fielding them from one segment each to take on senior Congress leaders would have sent a stronger message?
What is good for our party is an internal issue of our party and we have to make those decisions.

The trend in Karnataka is that it has not voted back a ruling party with a majority. Will the BJP be able to buck the trend?
That was also there in UP, Assam and Manipur, and we broke those records. That is our record and that is why we are confident.

Are you banking more on Modi's charisma for bucking the trend or on development and performance?
How can you separate Modiji and BJP? The Congress started the tradition that the PM should not go to state elections as Manmohan Singh was not addressing rallies. They did it as people were not coming for their election rallies. Was Indiraji not going? Was Atalji not going? For 10 years, the Congress had a leader who was not addressing rallies. So they started saying the PM should not go to state elections. Why not? Isn't Karnataka part of India? It is the responsibility of the PM to interact with people during elections and explain his views, his party's views, and the development agenda. That is the duty of the PM. Not going is arrogance. That is why the PM goes and puts in more hard work than us.

But the opposition says Amit Shah and the PM had to come to Karnataka as the state government has failed...
No, that is not true. We go to all states, even where we lost elections. We went to Odisha and we will go to Andhra Pradesh. For Congress, elections are just a means to gain power, but for us, it is a medium to present our ideology and programmes before the people. We explain our thinking, our achievements. Why shouldn't we go?

Do you think controversies on communal issues, such as those around *hijab* and *halal*, distracted from your development narrative?
Hijab and *halal* are not at all issues in this elections. I am hearing it for the first time from you. Why are you bringing it up?

Your views on the Bajrang Dal ban proposal? Do you think it has helped you?
For us it is not an issue to get votes. We have always opposed appeasement. No party should seek votes based on such policies. We think this is appeasement, so we are opposing it.

EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

The Congress says the BJP government in Goa had banned the Sri Rama Sene in 2014 and asks what moral right do you have to oppose the Bajrang Dal ban now.
You need to have proof to ban any organisation. We banned PFI, so you say you will ban another organisation. That is not fair. We have been in power since 2014 and banned PFI only after adequate proof came of its involvement in anti-national activities. We stopped it when it had reached the first stage of terrorist activities. The court also upheld it.

The BJP often speak about the benefits of a 'double-engine government' to seek votes. In a federal system, shouldn't the Centre and the state governments always be working for citizens as a double engine irrespective of which political parties are ruling at the Centre and the state?
I will give you a small example from Karnataka. When the Siddaramaiah government was here, the Centre had asked for a list of farmers for giving benefits under the PM Kisan Samman Yojana. They sent a list of 17 farmers! They were scared that if the benefits reach farmers, they will be happy with the BJP and Modiji. When Yediyurappa became the CM, they sent a list of 54 lakh farmers. That is the difference a 'double-engine government' makes, and we are explaining that to the people.

The imposition of Hindi is one of the complaints against the BJP made by regional parties in Karnataka and other southern states. How do you respond to it?
This is propaganda against the BJP. I want to humbly ask you, as well as those behind such propaganda, one question: could all students take IAS/IPS exams in the regional language before the Modi government came in 2014? No. Now they can do it. For 70 years, you forced students from Karnataka to take exams in Hindi or English. We ensured that they can take exams in their mother tongue. That is the case with medical examinations as well. Even constable's examinations can be taken in all scheduled languages. Where is the question of Hindi imposition? In fact, we have made arrangements that they need not depend on Hindi. You tell me, if a child who studied in Kannada medium writes exams in Hindi or English, how can he or she get a job? (The Congress) made such an arrangement that Kannada-medium students did not get jobs. We changed it. Now students can take exams in Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu and other languages.

Linguists do believe that a child's cognitive skills develop best if it learns in the mother tongue. But in a multilingual country like ours, what will be the link language?
People themselves will decide on the link language. There is no need to impose it on them. They will do whatever they feel is simple.

How important is this election, looking from the perspective of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls?
Winning or losing is part of elections. But for the BJP, it is a very important election as winning Karnataka means our Southern entry is assured. I strongly feel BJP governments will be formed in Karnataka and Telangana.

Do Tamil Nadu and Kerala remain challenging areas?
For us, the entire country was a challenging area. We did not have a single government in the Northeast. Now we have NDA governments in eight states. We were not in Uttar Pradesh, we won twice there. We won twice in Uttarakhand. We have performed well in Odisha. Eighteen Parliament members won from West Bengal. We also have 77 MLAs there, as well as the leader of the Opposition. It used to be just two MLAs. We are entering (all parts) and I hope it will happen soon in South India.

If the BJP comes back to power, will Basavaraj Bommai continue as CM or will it be decided after the elections?
Bommaiji is the CM now. You cannot decide on the CM when you have a CM. Also, we are facing the elections with Bommai as the CM.

In an election rally, you said there will be communal riots in Karnataka if the Congress comes to power. Why did you say so?
Look at the statistics. There were more communal riots during Congress rule. That is in the record, and I only spoke about the record. I said it is the Congress's history. Whenever the Congress came to power, there were communal riots.

The Congress is accusing the BJP of 40% corruption and also for allegedly misusing agencies to target political opponents. How do you respond to their allegations?
Both are contradictory. We have courts, police stations and agencies. Who filed a complaint about allegations of 40% bribe, and what is the outcome? It won't stick just by talking about it. As far as agencies are concerned, you can go to court. Why don't you go? Because there is a prima facie case. If you want a system in which no corruption cases should be registered against those in politics, you should include it in your election manifesto.

Opposition says the agencies mostly target them...
Look at the record from the Congress's time. A murder case was registered against me. I did not come out (to protest) wearing black clothes. I went to court. The court gave the verdict that it was a case of political vendetta and dismissed it. We have to fight in court. Cases were booked against Modiji too. They could not prove it. The question is, why don't they seek quashing of the ED (Enforcement Directorate) chargesheets? The ED makes a concrete case. If they say it is wrong, they should file an application seeking its quashing. Why go to trial? There is a provision to quash false cases. When a case was booked against me, I did not go to trial but sought its quashing. It was quashed. It went up to the Supreme Court.

The BJP manifesto promises the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and a Uniform Civil Code (UCC). Is it possible to do this in the state?
UCC can be done. UCC is on the concurrent list. NRC is a survey and the state has the right to survey its citizens.

Ahead of the 2024 polls, the Congress is trying to form an alliance of non-BJP parties. How do you look at it?
It's just propaganda. Tell me, how many people will come if Mamataji addresses a rally in UP? How will she help Akhilesh Yadav? What will happen if Chandrashekar Rao comes and supports Congress in Gujarat? What will happen if Stalinji campaigns for Congress in Karnataka? They are all leaders in their respective states (West Bengal, Telangana, Tamil Nadu) and we are fighting them in those states. Just coming on one platform will not make any difference in electoral possibilities. It will make a good photograph in newspapers, and they feel happy about it.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto has made undiplomatic remarks on Kashmir. Even internally, issues have been raised about J&K statehood and elections. What do you have to say?
Both issues are very clear. Elections will be conducted by the Election Commission and not the government. The commission is preparing electoral rolls. They are doing registration of people who left J&K because of the law and order situation and are living in different parts of the country. It is a laborious process. As far as the statehood question is concerned, I have said from day one in Parliament that after the elections, we agree to give statehood.

How is the situation in Manipur?
It is under control. The administration there is holding dialogues to build confidence on both sides. I am confident that it will be done.

The drug menace is proving to be a challenge for the ministry and the country...
We have taken the fight against drugs very seriously. We have a zero-tolerance policy against narcotics. We have adopted a 'Whole of Government Approach'. All states and all agencies, including revenue, customs, Navy, Coast Guard and other agencies are working together in this fight. The Union Home Ministry has also given a new standard operating procedure for investigation. If a drug is seized in any part of the country, it will not just be treated as a (single) case. The full network will be investigated. Once we started it, the policy gave good results. From 2006 to 2013, the value of drugs seized was 1768 crore, and from 2014 to 2022, it is ₹22,000 crore. It doesn't mean that more drugs are coming in, only that more is being seized, and more cases are being registered, and more arrests being made. It is being monitored strictly from the district level to my office.

Maoist insurgency still makes news too.
As far as left-wing extremism is concerned, violence has been reduced by 70%. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are free of left-wing extremism. Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand are also free of it. The Tirupati-to-Kathmandu corridor that used to be spoken about has been reduced and it is confined to four districts in Chhattisgarh. We have started 181 new camps in the affected states and sent (security forces) inside zones where there was no entry earlier. Once camps gave protection, light, telephone towers, shops that provide food grains at affordable prices and schools were provided. Due to that, the number of people associated with them (extremist organisations) reduced, and the number of surrendered Naxals increased. We have seen success. In a short time, we will totally free the country of Naxalism.

The Modi administration has been appreciated by the entire world. Under Modi's guidelines, Basavaraj Bommai has given good administration and many development projects. Today, the Congress wants to ban Hindu organisations but, it's impossible until BJP is in power. — **JP Nadda, BJP National President**

NEET goes off smoothly, no clash with Modi's rally

Examination takes place in 499 cities in India and 14 cities outside the country, 1.34 lakh students from Karnataka attend

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) was conducted in Karnataka with minimal disturbances on Sunday, as PM Narendra Modi participated in the second part of his roadshow in Bengaluru.

The examination took place in 499 cities in India and 14 cities outside the country. In Karnataka, as many as 1.34 lakh students wrote the test held from 2pm to 5.20pm. Earlier, students and organisations had raised concerns as the examination date clashed with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow. However, after several appeals, the roadshow was limited to sunday morning by avoiding NEET centres and wrapped up around 11.40am.

Despite the arrangements made to avoid clashes, the roadshow was still criticised as the National Testing Agency (NTA) maintained that gates at NEET centres would be opened from 11am to 1.30pm. However, speaking to TNIE, NTA coordinator in Bengaluru, Gowri Nataraj stated, "NEET was conducted smoothly. No centres intersected with the routes where the roadshow was held and none of the students reported any difficulties in reaching the examination centres."

Meanwhile, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterating, in Shivamogga, that the roadshow was a success with care taken to ensure that no NEET candidates were affected, critics also took the opportunity to point out issues faced by NEET candidates in Manipur due to ongoing communal riots as a result of which the NTA had to postpone the examinations for the students there.

Students arrive at Army School on K Kamaraj Road to write NEET in Bengaluru on Sunday

> NEET was conducted smoothly. No centres intersected with the routes where the roadshow was held and none of the students reported any difficulties in reaching the examination centres
> - Gowri Nataraj

SSLC exam results out on Monday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) board examination results will be released on Monday.

Speaking to TNIE, Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) director H N Gopalakrishna said, "The board will hold a press conference to release the results at 10am on Monday."

Following the release, it can be viewed on the official websites of KSEAB (kseab.karnataka.gov.in) and the National Informatics Centre's Karnataka Examination Result (karresults.nic.in). The SSLC board examinations took place from March 31 to April 15 and as many as 8.14 lakh students wrote it across 3,305 centres in the state.

With the Karnataka General Assembly Elections due on May 10, the result announcement was a cause for concern since several KSEAB officials are posted for election duty. However, KSEAB had maintained that they would try to release the results prior to the start of the elections.

CLOSED TERMINAL

Roadshow troubles commuters, BBPV lodges complaint

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A day after TNIE highlighted that many commuters were troubled due to closure of Jayanagar bus terminal during PM Narendra Modi's roadshow on Saturday, Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike (BBPV) lodged a complaint with Bengaluru Traffic Police and Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) terming the closure as illegal.

The bus commuters' rights forum lodged a complaint with the Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic) and the Managing Director of BMTC on May 7, in which they referred to a social media post of TNIE and pointed out the misconduct.

"This closure has inconvenienced the public as no official holiday was declared on account of the roadshow and the working population who travel by BMTC are not from affluent backgrounds and loss of wages/business/salary for a day or even half a day adversely affect their monthly earnings." the complaint read. It demanded an inquiry on who permitted the closure of the terminal and insisted to take action against them.

The forum also raised objections to the transport corporations' move of devoting more than 40 per cent of their fleet for election duty on May 9 and 10 and insisted that government should be hiring private buses for the election duty instead of making the commuters suffer.

EXPRESS READ

Bank of India announces results for Q4FY23

Bengaluru: The Bank of India has announced its financial results for Q4FY23 and stated that it has recorded a net profit of Rs, 1,350 crore, up by 123% YoY from Rs. 606 crore in Q4FY22. The state-run bank said its Return on Assets (RoA) at 0.63%, improved by 33 bps YOY. The Return on Equity (ROE) at 13.52%, improved by 688 bps YOY while the Cost to Income Ratio (CIR) at 51.48%, improved by 428 bps.

Actor Darshan campaigns for BJP

Bengaluru: Actor Darshan campaigned for BJP candidate Sateesh Reddy, who is contesting for the fourth term from Bommanahalli. Meanwhile, film producer Umapathi Srinivas Gowda is contesting from Congress in the same constituency. It's to be noted that Darshan has acted in a film produced by Gowda.

SBI State Bank of India
Magadi Main Road, Tavarekere - Blr (40781)
Kempegowda Complex, Magadi Main Road, Tavarekere
Phone Number - 080-28430919, Email: sbi.40781@sbi.co.in

TAVAREKERE MAGADI MAIN ROAD BRANCH PREMISES SHIFTING

This is to bring to the notice of all customers and patrons of State Bank of India that the Branch premises of its **Tavarekere Magadi Main Road (40781)** is Being Shifted from its present location to new locations as below:

No.63/6 Smt Rangamma Channappa Complex, SPG Layout, Opp Dy. SP Office, Magadi Main Road Tavarekere, Bangalore - 562130

The Branch will start functioning at the new address w.e.f., 15.02.2023

Branch Manager
Tavarekere, RBO-4, AO-3, SBI

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General public that my client M/s Amnis Developers LLP, A Partnership Firm, having its office at # 57, 3rd Main Road, ITI Layout, B Narayanapura, Mahadevapura, Bangalore-560 016,Rep by its Partners **Mr.ASHOKA NAGAMANGALA CHANNEGOWDA**, S/o Sri. Channegowda N.T, Aged about 45 years, and **Mrs. BHAVYA** W/o Ashoka Nagamangala Channegowda, Aged about 37 years, have negotiated and have entered into agreement of sale to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owners as mentioned below. If anybody, having claims, right, title, interest of any objections for this proposed purchase/sale, they may submit his/their representations/objections in writing along with documentary proof thereof by RPAD to the undersigned within 10 days from date of publication of this notice. If no response/objections are received from anybody my client will be at liberty to proceed to purchase the schedule property from the aforesaid owners. And no claims and objections whatsoever will be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO. 1(SRI. NANJUNDAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 114/3, measuring to an extent of 1 Acre 12.5 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey 113, West by;- Land in Survey No.130, North by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/2 & 118 and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 124 & 123.

ITEM NO.2 (SRI. S. ANJINAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 118/6, measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 03 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/9, West by;-Land in Survey No.114/2, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/5 and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/3.

ITEM NO.3 (SMT. BHAGYA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 118 /9 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 03 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No.118/10, West by;-Land in Survey No.118/6, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/5, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/3.

ITEM NO.4 (SRI. MOHAN KUMAR. K. A) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 118 /10 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 03 Guntas of DoddaSagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/11, West by;-Land in Survey No.118/9, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/3.

ITEM NO.5 (SMT. AMBIKA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 118 /11 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 03 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/12, West by;-Land in Survey No.118/10, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/3.

ITEM NO.6 (SRI. VARUN) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 118 /12 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 03 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 113, West by;-Land in Survey No.118/11, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 114/3.

ITEM NO.7 (SMT. MUNIRATHNAMMA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 113, measuring to an extent of 01 Acre 30 Guntas of Dodda Sagarahalli Village,** Vijayapura Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. Kaluve, West by;-Land in Survey No.s 114/3 & 118/12, North by ;-Land in Survey No. 118/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 122 & 123.

ITEM NO.8 (SMT. CHANNAMMA & OTHERS) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/1 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 04 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 133/2 West by;-Land in Survey No.136, North by ;-Land in Survey No.134 & 133/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/2.

ITEM NO.9 (SRI. M JAYARAM) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/2 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 22 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 131 West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.133 & 132/1, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/3.

ITEM NO.10 (SRI. RAMAYYA)- All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/3 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 21 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 131 West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/2, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/4.

ITEM NO.11 (SRI. NANJAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/4 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 29 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 131 West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/3, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/5.

ITEM NO.12 (SRI. MUNEGOWDA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/5A measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 26 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 131 West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/6

ITEM NO.13 (SRI. KYATHAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/5B measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 27 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 131 West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/4, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/6

ITEM NO.14 (SRI. SHIVANNA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/6 measuring to an extent of 1 Acre 02 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/5, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/7

ITEM NO.15 (SMT. CHOWDAMMA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/7 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 09 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/6, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/8,

ITEM NO.16 (SRI. ANJINAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/8, measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 08 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/7, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/9,

ITEM NO.17 (SRI. NARAYANAPPA & BASAPPA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/9 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 15 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/8, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/10,

ITEM NO.18 (SRI. NARAYANA SWAMY) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/10 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 14 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/9, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/11,

ITEM NO.19 (SMT. CHOWDAMMA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/11 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 15 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/10, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/12,

ITEM NO.20 (SRI. RAJANNA & OTHERS) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/12 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 30 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 127,West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/11, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 132/13 & 137.

ITEM NO.21 (SRI. BYREGOWDA) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 132/13 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 16 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No. 132/12, West by;-Land in Survey No.136 North by ;-Land in Survey No.132/12, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 137.

ITEM NO.22 (SRI. NARASIMHAMURTHY) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 127/1 measuring to an extent of 0 Acre 18 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No.129, West by;-Land in Survey No.127/2, North by ;-Land in Survey No.131, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 127/2.

ITEM NO.23 (SMT. ANANDAMMA &SRI. NARASIMHAMURTHY) - All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing in **Survey No. 127/2 measuring to an extent of 2 Acres 39 Guntas of Karahalli Amanikere Village,** Kundana Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on East by ;-Land in Survey No.127/1,129,128, West by;-Land in Survey No.132, North by ;-Land in Survey No.131, and South by ;- Land in Survey No. 126.

RAJESH GOWDA, Advocate
2, 2nd Main, Behind LG Showroom Subhashnagar, Old Madras Road, Virgonagar Post, Bangalore-49 Mob: 9986400432
Date: 04-05-2023

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS AT MADRAS SAPPERS INSTITUTE, MADRAS ENGINEER GROUP & CENTRE, BENGALURU-560042

1. Officer-in-Charge, Non-CSD, Madras Engineer Group & Centre, Bengaluru-42 invites applications for allotment of various regimental shops on rental basis at this Intitute. Shops would be allotted to highest bidder based on under mentioned priority in descending order :-
   (a) War widows/ widows of def personnel killed while on duty.
   (b) Disabled Soldiers.
   (c) Ex-Servicemen.
   (d) Spouse/widow of Ex-Servicemen.
2. Details of shop & sequence of auction are as under :-

Ser No	Shop No	Category of Shop	Plinth Area (In Mtr)
(a)	05	Uniform Accessories & Kit items	5.70 x 2.70

3. Application form (at no cost) may be obtained from reception of Main Gate, MEG & Centre as per following details :-
   (a) Issue of application from 08 May 2023 to 04 Jun 2023 (from 0900hrs to 1700hrs).
   (b) Date of receipt of application from 08 May 2023 to 05 Jun 2023 (upto 1100hrs)

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
BASAVESHWARANAGAR BRANCH
No.119/18, 80 Feet Road, KHB Colony, Bangalore-560079.

APPENDIX IV under Act- Rule 8(1)
POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property Only)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of the **Bank of Baroda, Basaveshwarnagar Branch, Bangalore** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule-3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 17.01.2023 calling upon the **1) Mr. Jangala Eshwar S/o. Jangala Narayana and 2) Mrs. Jangala Bhavani W/o. Jangala Eshwar,** Residing at No.4, Flat No.8, 1st Cross, 7th Main, Hikkalasandra, Sarawabowmanagara, Bangalore-560061 (Borrowers). **3) Mr. Jangala Vamsi Krishna S/o. Jangala Eshwar,** Residing at No.4, Flat No.8, 1st Cross, 7th Main, Hikkalasandra, Sarawabowmanagara, Bangalore-560061 (Guarantor) to to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being under **Rs.77,67,542.37 (Rupees Seventy Seven Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Forty Two and Thirty Seven Paisa only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor of the property having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor/Owner of the property in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **02nd day of May of the year 2023.**

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of Baroda** for an amount of **Rs.79,96,500.82 (Rupees Seventy Nine Lakhs Ninety Six Thousand Five Hundred Rupees Paise Eighty Two Only)** plus interest thereon along with cost.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Schedule "A" Property: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable residential property bearing Site No.1692 formed by Bengaluru development authority situated in 4th 'H' Block further extension of Banashankari 6th Stage layout. Vrushabhavathinagara, Bengaluru measuring East to West 6.00 mtrs, North to South: 9.00 mtrs and bounded on the: East by: Site No.1693, West by: Site No.1691, North by: Road, South by: Site No.1709.

Date: 02.05.2023 **Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru **Bank of Baroda**

IN THE COURT OF THE XL ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE COURT, BENGALURU (CCH-43)

P & SC No. 31/2023

PETITIONER : 1. BALCHAND GANDHI S/O SOHANLAL, 74 YEARS, **2. SAYRA BAI**, 69 YEARS, WIFE OF BALCHAND GANDHI, BOTH R/O NO.47, VIVANI ROAD, FAZER TOWN, BENGALURU-560005.
RESPONDENT : NIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named petitioners has made petition to this court Under section 372 of Indian succession act for grant of Succession Certificate in favor of the petitioners, in respect of schedule mentioned below. The below mentioned schedule has held by Dhiraj son of petitioners Who expired on 16.11.2020.

Interested parties are hereby called upon to appear in this court in person or by pleader duly instructed **on 19.06.2023 at 11 a.m.** inform to show cause against the petitioners failing wherein appearance will be heard and declared as exparte.

SCHEDULE

Sl. No.	COMPANY NAME	C.No	FOLIO No	SHARES	PRICE	TOTAL
1	AVI PHOTOCHEM LIMITED	13149	22663	30	37.5	1125
2	AVI PHOTOCHEM LIMITED	31514	17086	100	37.5	3750
3	GANESH BENZOPLAST LIMITED	180633	41163	50	141	7050
4	GANESH BENZOPLAST LIMITED	273355	41163	50	141	7050
5	HB ESTATE DEVELOPERS LIMITED	57537	626954	50	22.5	1125
6	HB ESTATE DEVELOPERS LIMITED	505849	775182	23	22.5	517.5
7	HB ESTATE DEVELOPERS LIMITED	57532	626949	25	22.5	562.5
8	HB ESTATE DEVELOPERS LIMITED	505846	775180	11	22.5	247.5
9	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	308823	473287	7	38.95	272.65
10	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	308826	473288	15	38.95	584.25
11	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	57532	326949	25	38.95	973.75
12	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	57537	326954	50	38.95	1947.5
13	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	170148	4755	100	38.95	3895
14	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	279460	4755	100	38.95	3895
15	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	79282	D-27443	100	38.95	3895
16	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	283885	27443	100	38.95	3895
17	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	79979	4755	100	38.95	3895
18	HB PORTFOLIO LEASING LIMITED	170148	D-4755	100	38.95	3895
19	HB STOCK HOLDING LIMITED	408842	26959	15	54	810
20	HB STOCK HOLDING LIMITED	408845	26964	30	54	1620
21	HB STOCK HOLDING LIMITED	95429	26964	50	54	2700
22	HB STOCK HOLDING LIMITED	95430	26964	50	54	2700
23	HB STOCK HOLDING LIMITED	95423	26959	50	54	2700
24	INDIANK	94145	33799	100	32.8	3280
25	JSW Steel Limited	243736	JSW0243738	4	776.2	3104.6
26	JSW Steel Limited	1014693	JSW1144900	4	776.2	3104.6
27	JSW Steel Limited	2027070	JSW1144900	4	776.2	3104.6
28	JSW Steel Limited	243736	243738	4	776.2	3104.6
29	JSW Steel Limited	2627070	JSW1144900	40	776.2	31046
30	JSW Steel Limited	5764579	JV50743991	100	776.2	77615
31	JSW Steel Limited	5764580	JV50743991	100	776.2	77615
32	NIIT LIMITED	753	728	112	312	34944
33	NIIT LIMITED	3286	8100	150	312	46800
34	NIIT LIMITED	494	728	840	312	262080
35	NIIT TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED / COFORGE	6481	750	84	3940	330960
36	NIIT TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED / COFORGE	761	750	168	3940	661920
37	NOVA STEEL LTD	298140	12370	100	10	1000
38	PEERLESS SHIPPING & OILFIELD SERVICES / Seamec Ltd	47725	12138	100	895	89500
39	RELIANCE CAPITAL	16491497	103914973	2	8.9	17.8
40	RELIANCE COMMUNICATION VENTURES LTD	333682	82117014	45	2.3	103.5
41	RELIANCE ENERGY	15891497	103914973	3	137.6	412.8
42	Reliance Home Finance Ltd	222141	103914973	2	3.25	6.5
43	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED	62525955	103538621	45	2578	116005.5
44	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED	57816140	103538621	45	2578	116005.5
45	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	655811	3538621	100	10	1000
46	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	1930915	3538621	100	10	1000
47	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	1931015	3538621	100	10	1000
48	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	4383265	3538621	100	10	1000
49	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	7999548	3538621	100	10	1000
50	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	10799548	3538621	100	10	1000
51	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	9399548	3538621	100	10	1000
52	RELIANCE PETROLEUM	1311622	3538621	100	10	1000
53	RELIANCE POWER	4535032	208211701	11	14.8	162.8
54	SEASONS TEXTILES LIMITED	29992	3932	100	9.89	989
55	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	584744	APL190391	100	74.4	7440
56	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	468213	APL183465	100	74.4	7440
57	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	584745	APL190391	100	74.4	7440
58	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	582785	APL189716	100	74.4	7440
59	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	269546	APL111966	100	74.4	7440
60	THE ANDHRA PETROCHEMICALS	269339	APL111758	100	74.4	7440
61	VINTRON INDUSTRIES LTD	18792	19144	100	2.84	284
						1974911.45

Given under by hand and seal of the Court on this 19th day of April 2023.
By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.
L. ASHOK KUMAR, Advocate
109, BNR Complex, J.M. Road, Bengaluru - 560 002.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The notice is hereby given to public that our client has lost original sale deed bearing Doc.No.21300/2006-07 dated 15.11.2006, pertaining to Northern portion of Vacant Site No.31, on 06.08. 2019 at Kengeri. It is hereby informed to the public that in case any of them finds the same can contact on the below mentioned address or phone number within 7 days from the date of this publication.

SCHEDULE :

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Northern portion of Site No.31, Khatha No.1454 (Old Khatha No.10/5), Situated at Doddanagamangala Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded on:
East by: Site No.30, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.24, **South by:** Remaining Southern portion of same Site No.31 (600 sqft). Measuring East to West: 30ft, North to South: 20 ft, in all measuring 600 sqft.

V.L.Associates
Advocates
No.56, Out house, 19th Main Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.
Ph: 9481900851/9743323668.
Place: Bangalore Date: 06.05.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the below mentioned property from 1) Mr. B.R. Chiranth & 2) Mrs. Deepthi Jarmali Chiranth, who have represented that, they are the absolute owners in possession & title of the schedule property. In this regard, any Individual (within the family or outside the family) / Organization / etc., claiming any right, title or interest of any nature whatsoever in the property is hereby called upon to contact/inform the undersigned within 10 days of the Publication of this notice failing which it will be presumed that the aforesaid Property is free from all kinds of encumbrances / Claim. And any claim whatsoever after the expiry of the said 10 days, shall not be entertained by our client.

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Contact : **Nandini .G,** Advocate
M and N Law Associates
#6, Bhumika, 1st Floor,
Chandra Layout, Bengaluru - 560 040.

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TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited invites open tender from eligible Bidders for the following:

SL. No.	Tender Description	Tender Enquiry No	Tender Fee inclusive of GST (Rs.)	EMD (Rs. Lakh)	Last date and time of payment of Tender Fee
1	Rate Contract for Meter Reading cum Spot Billing/ Bill Distribution, Door to Door Collection at TPCODL, Odisha for 3 years	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000376/23-24	5,000	8.5	16.05.2023

For further details of Tenders, please visit "Tender" section on TPCODL website https://tpcentralodisha.com. Future communication/corrigendum to tender documents, if any, shall be available on website.

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NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co- borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice	Property Address
1	10022585592 & 15988963	Loan Against Property	1. Mohammed Adil Pasha 2. Shakira Begum	19.04.2023	INR 96,32,068.78/-	**Property :-1** - All That Piece Or Parcel Of Previously Entire Premises Bearing No.18, 18/1, (old No.34 And 34/1), Presently Portion Of Corporation No.18, Situated At Cart Stand Road, Jolly Mohalla, Bangalore City Corporation Old Division No.20, Later Division No.27, Presently B.B.M.P. Ward No.30. With PID No.30-9-18, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560002, And Bounded As : **Measuring :- Unit -1 : Western Portion :-** East To West : 7.6 (7 Feet Six Inches), North To South : 86.2 (eighty Six Feet) **Measuring :- Unit -2 : Center Portion :-** East To West : 21.3 (twenty One Feet Three Inches), North To South : 51.0 (fifty One Feet) **Measuring :- Unit -3 : Eastern Portion :-** East To West : 2 (2 Feet), North To South : 47.6 (forty Seven Feet Six Inches) **Unit 1, 2 And 3 Total Measuring 1823.75 Sq.ft. And Bounded As : East : House No. 35 And Abdul Jabbar's Property, West : Syed Khadeer's Property, North : Property No.6 Belongs To S. Nadar, South : Cart Stand Road And Portion Of Property In The Same Number Sold To Syed Kaleem's Property** **Property - 2 :-** All That Piece Or Parcel Of Property Bearing BBMP Khata No. 18/4, Assigned To The Portion Of Old No.18, Pid No. 30-9-18/4, Measuring East To West : 29.3 Feet And North To South : (34.9+39)/2 Feet, Admeasuring 1079 Square Feet, Situated At Cart Stand Road, Jolly Mohalla, Bangalore, Karnataka-560053, And Bounded As : **East : Property Belonging To Sri Jabber, West : Remaining Property Of Vendor's Vendor/jayalakshmi Narayan, North : Remaining Property Of Vendor's Property, South : Cart Stand Road**

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) .** Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
**IDFC First B

The family members of an SC woman, who was allegedly murdered by her caste Hindu husband, refused to accept the body on Sunday. According to the police, W Ramya (22) of Muniyandipuram was murdered by her husband. Following a dispute, the duo was living separately

2 flights to evacuate 157 AP students from Manipur

Govt identifies 200 students studying in NIT and CAU, helpline and control room set up for coordination

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Visakhapatnam

FOLLOWING discussions between the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government and the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation on Sunday, as many as 157 students from Andhra Pradesh stranded in the violence-hit Manipur will be evacuated in two flights on Monday morning.

The State government will bear costs for the two flights: one from Imphal to Hyderabad and another from Imphal to Kolkata.

As many as 108 students belonging to Andhra Pradesh will reach Hyderabad at 9.35 am on Monday. Another flight with 49 students on board will arrive in Kolkata by 11.10 am on Monday. The students will then be shifted to their native places through different modes of transportation.

So far, the State government has identified close to 200 students, 157 studying at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) and 33 at the Central Agriculture University, stranded in Manipur.

In a press release issued earlier in the day the government had explained, "One student from AP in each of the educational institutions has been identified to establish a nodal point of contact. Details of other students are being collected through them."

Resident commissioner at the AP Bhavan in New Delhi, Aditya Nath Das had requested the Union Aviation Ministry secretary Rajiv Bansal to arrange for flights from Manipur to Hyderabad or Vijayawada for the safe evacuation of Andhra students. In a letter to Manipur State Chief Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Das appealed to the government there to provide security for the safe passage of students.

In Manipur, meanwhile, uncertainty and fear has gripped the stranded students. Some of the students told TNIE that the site where violence has erupted is a mere 200-250 metres away from their campus. Lack of proper internet connection has added to their plight. Moreover, they said supply of food and water was also rapidly dwindling.

SATHEESAN WRITES TO PM ON ATTACKS AGAINST CHRISTIANS

T' Puram: Opposition Leader VD Satheesan has written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressing his concern about the widespread attacks against churches and Christians in Manipur. He has urged the PM to ensure the safety and smooth repatriation of Malayalis who are stranded there. In the letter, Satheesan noted that the atrocities in Manipur came to light after world-renowned boxer Mary Kom expressed her anguish about what was happening there."The State, which was peacefully ruled by Congress, has now been transformed into a hotbed of intense sectarian conflict. Many people have died, and many more have fled to other states in fear of persecution", wrote Satheesan. He said that both the state and central governments are legally bound to protect the fundamental rights.

AIRLIFTED STUDENTS, WORKERS LIKELY TO REACH HYDERABAD

Hyderabad: Telangana government is preparing to airlift stranded students and workers from the state living in violence-torn Manipur. Arrangements have been made by the authorities to take a special flight from Imphal to Hyderabad to rescue stranded students which is expected to reach Shamshabad airport on Monday morning. According to sources, about 250 students belonging to Telangana are studying in Imphal and surrounding areas. Many more students from the Telugu states might have been pursuing their higher studies in several prestigious institutes in the state including IIT- Manipur, NIT - Manipur and Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences, among others.

GOVT ENTERS 3RD YR

Will ignore criticism, move on, says Stalin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

AS the DMK government stepped into its third year on Sunday, Chief Minister MK Stalin said his government would ignore criticisms and move on to serve the people.

The chief minister and his ministerial colleagues visited the memorials of former chief ministers CN Annadurai and M Karunanidhi on the Marina and paid respects.

When pointed out that the government has registered several achievements while facing criticisms on a few issues, Stalin said, "I don't bother about criticisms, not even an iota. I take good criticism and ignore whatever is bad."

Stalin also said: "Before assuming office on May 7, 2021, I said this government is for all -- those who voted for it and all those who did not. I also promised that this government will function in a way to make those who voted for us happy and make those who failed to vote for us repent as why they failed to vote for us. This government's functioning continues on this line."

Later, in a tweet, Stalin said, "After this government assumed office, every passing day registered something good for people. We evolve schemes every day and ensure growth of all parts of the state. The Dravidian model government, which drew the attraction of various quarters, will continue for decades without respite."

The Chief Minister visited the residence of Karunanidhi at Gopalapuram, paid homage to his father's portrait and took the blessings of his mother Dayalu Ammal.

'DYNASTIC POLITICS IS DMK'S ACHIEVEMENT'

Coimbatore: Dynastic politics is one of the achievements of the DMK government in the last two years, Telangana Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan has said. Addressing media persons in the airport on Sunday, Tamilisai said advertisements released by ministers to mark the day featured prominently images of the chief minister's son and sports development minister Udhayanidhi. Citing the government withdrawing the amendment to Factories Act that allowed 12-hour work days in industries, Tamilisai said "A government usually makes announcements, but the DMK government is withdrawing announcements it made." Responding to a question about CM MK Stalin's statement that the Dravidian model of governance could not be understood by those who differentiate between people on the basis of caste and religion, she questioned why Stalin does greet people during Hindu festivals. "It will be nice if the CM gives an answer since this is not my question alone but that of many people," she said, and urged Stalin to take steps and stop smuggling of minerals from TN.

Underperforming MLAs get warning from KCR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

CHIEF Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao recently issued a warning to several MLAs who have been identified as performing poorly in surveys and reports from Athmeeya Sammelanams. According to top sources in the ruling party, nearly 30 MLAs are in a vulnerable position and have been advised to work in accordance with the directives of the party chief.

According to sources, the 30 MLAs who have been identified as underperforming have been reported to be maintaining a distance from both second-rung leaders and ground-level cadre, resulting in a serious disconnect between them. In an attempt to bridge this gap, the party chief planned to conduct Athmeeya Sammelanam in every mandal across the State. Sources said Rao received the report on the situation of MLAs in their respective segments in the third week of last month.

In last week of April, he personally called each of the underperforming MLAs to Pragathi Bhavan and issued a warning regarding their poor performance in their respective Assembly constituencies. During the meeting, he also instructed the MLAs to work diligently and without any controversies in their constituencies, emphasising the importance of working in unity for the betterment of the party.

According to sources, three of the underperforming MLAs have reportedly received such low marks in the survey that it has greatly upset the party chief. They added Rao is so disappointed with their performance that he has instructed them to stay in their respective constituencies and not to come to Hyderabad.

> **Three of the underperforming MLAs have reportedly received such low marks in the survey that it has greatly upset the party chief**
>
> Sources

On the other hand, based on feedback from Athmeeya Sammelanams and an internal survey, another 20 MLAs have reportedly received 'just pass' marks, while the party's hold remains strong in the survey. Rao called these MLAs and alerted them, citing their lack of focus on their respective Assembly segments and failure to tour them regularly.

OUT FOR A MOVIE

BJP president JP Nadda and Karnataka party chief Nalin Kumar Kateel along with other BJP workers at the screening of the controversial movie 'The Kerala Story' at Garuda Mall in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Two Maoists gunned down in exchange of fire in Telangana

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Khammam

TWO Maoists were killed during an exchange of fire with security personnel in the Puttampadu forest area under Kistaram police station limits, which is situated close to Cherla, on Sunday. A self-loading rifle, a single-bore gun and some explosives were recovered from the spot.

Among the two deceased, one has been identified as Madakam Yerraiah alias Rajesh, who was the Cherla Local Organisation Squad (LOS) commander, while the authorities are still ascertaining the identity of the other individual.

Kothagudem Superintendent of Police (SP) Dr Vineeth G said the police forces received information that an action team of the banned CPI (Maoist) moving into the Puttampadu forest area to kill police forces. Hence, the Greyhounds, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and special police forces took up a combing operation in the forest area, he added.

While the security personnel were carrying out the operation, the militants opened fire from the top of a hill in the Puttampadu forest area at around 6.10 am. To protect themselves, the police forces also fired in retaliation.

When the police noticed that the Maoists had stopped firing, they went over to the other side and found the bodies of two militants along with some weapons and explosives. A team of police forces made arrangements to shift the bodies to the Bhadrachalam Area Hospital for autopsy while the rest carried on with the combing operation.

Terming it a 'fake encounter', Bhadradri Kothagudem and Alluri Sitaramaraju districts division secretary of the CPI (Maoist), Azad, in a press release, alleged that the police brought an unarmed Maoist from the village and shot him. He went on claim that Rajesh had gone to Puttapadu village on some personal errand when the police nabbed him based on information from 'a betrayer' and later, killed him.

He shot off a warning to ruling party leaders, SP Vineeth, DSP Satyanarayana and Circle Inspector B Ashok and held them responsible for Rajesh's death. He said Rajesh was 26 years old and was born into a poor tribal family in Kangal village.

EXPRESS READ

Woman killed, face smashed

Warangal: A middle-aged woman was brutally killed by unknown culprits Saturday night at Pallaruguda village on the Warangal-Khammam Highway. Pedestrians found the corpse on Sunday morning, and informed the police. The victim has been identified as 45-year-old Jarupula Shouri, a daily wager. According to Sangem Inspector A Srinivas and Sub-Inspector M Bharat, the victim's face was smashed with boulders. **ENS**

Naveen silent on murders: Pradhan

Bhubaneswar: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Sunday said the silence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on the sensational murder of his cabinet minister Naba Kishore Das and abduction and murder of a minor boy Samarth Agarwal in Jharsuguda has put a big question mark on the credibility and efficiency of the state government. He was at an election rally in Jharsuguda Assembly constituency. **ENS**

BJP Adilabad leader to join Cong

Adilabad: BJP leader from Adilabad, Kandi Srinivasa Reddy will join Congress in the presence of AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi in Hyderabad on Monday. Srinivasa Reddy reportedly took the decision to change loyalties after meeting District Congress Committee president Shajid Khan and former minister C Ramchandra Reddy in the district headquarters. Srinivasa Reddy had joined BJP last year. **ENS**

BJP plaint over Bandi's 'obituary'

Hyderabad : BJP workers on Sunday lodged a police complaint after an "obituary" of BJP State president Bandi Sanjay Kumar, along with his photo, was posted on Facebook page – KTRTRS by an unknown person. BJP's Karimnagar Parliament segment convener Boinpally Praveen Rao noticed the Facebook post. The user shared the photo of Sanjay under the headline – "Ika Selavu" (Goodbye now).**ENS**

Not weakening India's position is a collective responsibility: EAM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mysuru

IT was everyone's collective responsibility to ensure that India's collective position is not weakened abroad, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said.

While inaugurating an interactive session on 'Foreign Policies of Modi Government' organised by the Thinkers Forum at KSOU Convocation Hall here on Sunday, Jaishankar was asked about Rahul Gandhi's statement that India did not understand the threat from China. He was also asked whether such domestic criticism affected India's ability to negotiate in international fora.

"I would have offered to take classes on China from Rahul Gandhi but I discovered that he was taking the same from the Chinese ambassador," Jaishankar claimed.

"On certain issues, we have a collective responsibility to at least behave in a way in which we do not weaken our collective position abroad. What we have seen in the past three years on China is that there are often very misleading narratives," he said.

The foreign minister said he was prepared to accept that there were differences of view points which should not be reduced to a "slanging match".

To a question on his strong comments against Pakistan during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit, he attributed his outburst to Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari having spoken about "everything else other than the SCO".

"If you look at what his public utterances were outside in the press conference and other interviews, he hasn't spoken about the SCO at all. He has spoken about everything else pertaining to India," the diplomat-turned-politician said.

Zardari spoke about politics, passed value judgements on Kashmir, the G20 and the BBC documentary, he added.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar speaks in Mysuru on Sunday | EXPRESS

"As I said, other than the SCO he has spoken about everything else. So, what do I do as a host? If I have a guest who is a good guest, I am a good host," Jaishankar said. The EAM had said in Goa during the SCO meeting that "victims of terrorism do not sit together with perpetrators of terrorism to discuss terror" in a rebuttal to Zardari's remarks.

Ex-BBMP corporator M Chandrappa and Congress workers drum up support for Ramalinga Reddy

Cong workers rally behind Ramalinga

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ BENGALURU

WITH the public campaigning for Assembly polls ending 48 hours prior to polling, on Sunday night, former BBMP corporator M Chandrappa, youth leaders and grassroot workers of Koramangala village gathered in large numbers and vouched their support for KPCC working president Ramalinga Reddy on Sunday.

The agenda of the meeting was to ensure that Reddy not just wins, but does so with over 30,000 margin from the BTM Layout Assembly constituency. About 3,000 workers who had gathered were told to reach out to women from both BTM and Jayanagar Assembly constituencies, where Ramalinga Reddy's daughter Sowmya Reddy is contesting from, and inform every household about the Congress guarantees.

"We have told our workers, especially women, to reach out to every family that they should check gas cylinder rates, petrol prices, and prices of cooking oil, before heading to the polling booths," said Chandrappa.

JUMBO LOSS

Balarama, who carried golden howdah for 14 yrs, dies

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

ELEPHANT Balarama of Mysuru Dasara fame passed away on Sunday evening due to age-related ailments. He was 67. He was also suffering from various infections and had abstained from eating or drinking for a long time.

According to forest department officials and veterinarians, Balarama was suffering from TB. He had started showing signs of illness from April 19.

"He had stopped eating and drinking. When we diagnosed, he found a sharp wooden piece stuck in his rectum. It had to be removed manually, following which IV fluids and liquid diet were started. He started eating bamboo, but then stopped eating again. An endoscopy was done earlier this week and blood stains were found in the rectum, infection in the trachea and puss. All reports confirmed that he was suffering from tuberculosis for which the treatment was started, but all efforts failed," said Nagarhole Tiger Reserve staffers.

Balarama was undergoing treatment in Bheemankatte elephant camp. He was captured by the forest staffers in 1987 in Hassan. As per medical records, he was then aged 30. Born in 1958, the tusker had carried the Golden Howdah for 14 years, the highest for any tusker.

"Majestic and calm with good looks, he was the most preferred tusker. He was also used for training other howdah tuskers and keeping other camp elephants calm," said senior forest department officials.

Weighing around 4,000 kg, Balarama's weight plunged to around 3,200 kg. The forest department staffers will conduct the postmortem on Monday. He will be buried with state honours. The carcass will not be left for the vultures to feed as per the directions of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change because he was suffering from tuberculosis.

"Most of the camp elephants suffer from TB. There are also chances of mahouts and kawadis getting infected. Annual checkups are done to ensure any infection is under control. While Balarama had TB, his mahout had tested negative," the officials said.

EDITORIAL

"Many a book is like a key to unknown chambers within the castle of one's own self" — Franz Kafka

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

SHARPEST SWIPE YET AT BILAWAL FOR PROMOTING PAK TERROR FACTORY

From the moment Pakistan announced Bilawal Bhutto's in-person participation at the recent multilateral SCO foreign ministers' conclave in Goa, it was evident there would be no bilateral component to the visit. He admitted he made the trip only for the SCO engagement, though, in the process, he became Pakistan's first foreign minister to visit India in 12 years. Even if he had sought bilateral talks, India would have been wary of accepting it since his lame-duck government lacks the mandate to break new ground. Friendship with India is loaded with grave political risks no party or coalition in Pakistan would want to take at this point, as national elections are just months away. Besides, if earnest, such an initiative would have come from Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's PML-N and not from coalition partner PPP, whose leader Bilawal is feathering his own nest, hoping to be the next PM. As it stands, opposition leader Imran Khan appears to be the most popular in Pakistan though the militablishment wants his PTI out of power.

At the SCO meet, Bilawal stayed in denial about his country being a global terror factory, mocking India instead for weaponising terrorism to score diplomatic points. The big fireworks began after the conclave as he peddled his fake narrative against the BJP-RSS and issued a not-so-veiled threat to the G20 meeting in Srinagar later this month. "At the time, we will give such a response that it will be remembered," he bragged to the Pakistani media, reported *Dawn*. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was scathing in his riposte, characterising Bilawal as a promoter, justifier and spokesperson of the terror industry, adding his positions were called out, including at the SCO meet. He was acidic in criticising Pakistan's credibility on terror, saying it was dipping faster than its pathetic foreign exchange reserves. Contemptuously brushing aside Bilawal's peace pitch if J&K's special powers were restored, he said victims and perpetrators of terror do not sit together to discuss such matters.

That Bilawal neither has the experience, vision, wisdom or grace to explore a bilateral peace accord is evident. His playing the India card for electoral gains was on expected lines. But his immature comments further messed up the Indo-Pak relationship already at its nadir. He ought to be held accountable globally if any major terror attack happens in the run-up to the May 22–24 G20 meet in Srinagar.

ECONOMIC REALITIES HIT RUPEE TRADE PLANS

Amid contrasting reports on the fate of Indo-Russian talks for settling trade between the two countries in local currency, the one thing which comes out is that Russia is not interested in doing business in the rupee. The government, it seems, is only putting on a brave face as its efforts to make the rupee an internationally accepted currency face a trade brick wall. It needs to face reality and reduce the buzz it created around the rupee going international.

The rupee-rouble trade talks began with fanfare last year amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict and Russia's need to bypass Western economic sanctions. India offered help, considering its interest in getting cheaper oil from Russia. Talks began over facilitating India's large purchases of Russian oil in the rupee. The deal was to let Russia maintain Vostro accounts in India to hold the local currency here and use it for purchases from India. However, the economic realities ruined all plans. With Indian exports to Russia minuscule compared to India's imports from that country, Russia would always have a surplus rupee balance. And Russia started developing cold feet without a clear idea of how to liquidate the rupee balance. Russia already had an experience in the 1990s, when after the collapse of the USSR (with whom India had rupee-rouble trade deals), and both countries shifted to trade in dollars and other currencies, Russia was left with a huge rupee balance. That took years to liquidate. It does not want a repeat of the situation. Besides, with the rate differential on Russian crude slowly reducing, Russia may cease to remain a preferred trading partner, requiring either of the countries to use an alternative payment mechanism.

This leaves the government with egg on its face, given the brouhaha it created over making the rupee an international currency. Recently, this newspaper argued that India's plan belies economic and geopolitical realities. Around 86% of India's imports are invoiced in dollars, while the rupee's daily average share in the foreign exchange market is just 1.6% of the global turnover (compared to the USD's 88%). Also, with no full capital account convertibility, the rupee cannot be freely exchanged with other foreign currencies. Given these realities, the government should lower its pitch on making the rupee an international currency.

QUICK TAKE

FIGHT LONELINESS

Growing social isolation increases the risk of premature deaths in the USA. The US Surgeon General says ageing parents living away from their children and youngsters addicted to smartphone communication suffer from the 'loneliness epidemic'. In India, the situation is similar, which the Covid pandemic exacerbated. Psychiatrists call it the PICA—Parents in India, Children Abroad—a problem when parents fighting loneliness gradually lose interest in life, becoming reclusive. Teenagers increasingly suffer from depression and attention disorders. Families, communities and health authorities face the challenge of preventing highly individualised new-age lifestyles and living with technology from impacting in-person relationships.

If Pakistan has no control over the terror groups operating from its soil and cannot be held responsible for them or their actions, there is no point talking to it

GLOVES OFF: NO MORE PULLING PUNCHES AGAINST PAKISTAN

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE
Professor of English at JNU

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOUMYADIP SINHA

In *The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World* (2020), External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar says: "My generation ... carried into our profession the heavy baggage of difficult experiences with the US, China and Pakistan." The heavy baggage has only gotten heavier. But has the time finally come for a substantial shift in our Pakistan policy?

We might ask, vis-à-vis the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers Meeting in Goa, if the gloves are finally off when it comes to Pakistan. In response to his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's tired and predictable raking up of the Kashmir issue in multilateral meetings, EAM Jaishankar retorted, "Pakistan has nothing to do with Kashmir, only issue is when will they vacate PoK."

Apart from trying to equalise with India on Kashmir, Pakistan has long enjoyed the advantage of doublespeak when it comes to terrorism. Calling itself the victim of terrorism on the one hand and using so-called non-state actors and army-supported terror outfits to do its dirty work against India on the other. Most Indian governments prior to Modi 2.0 have been obliged, by our own geo-strategic and political necessities, to play along, not calling out Pakistan's carapace of lies loudly enough.

The contradiction, however, is obvious for everyone to see. If the Pakistani State has no control over the terror groups operating from its soil and cannot be held responsible for them or their actions, what is the point of talking to it or its representatives? Else, even as victims of terror, we end up participating and countenancing the convenient fictions of Pakistan—in fact propping up its falsehoods and fake narratives on the international scene—instead of avenging the deaths of our soldiers killed by Pakistani terror strikes. To put it starkly and simply, with every terrorist strike against us, the message that goes out is that the Indian State not only fails to protect its soldiers and civilians from enemy attacks but keeps talking peace with the Pakistani State which foments and funds these very terrorists.

This contradiction might best be summed up in Jaishankar's own words: "That India could offer a hand of friendship, but nevertheless respond strongly to acts of terror, is hardly a contradiction, except for those determined to see one." Unfortunately, no special determination is now needed to see this contradiction. The weakness of our previous governments and their moral posturing to cover up strategic failures is all too evident. Has the time come, therefore, to change both our postures and policies towards Pakistan? Again, if we are to go by Jaishankar's own admissions, the answer is yes: "The value of the Uri and Balakot responses was that, finally, Indian policy could think for itself rather than let Pakistan condition its answers. And that, in many ways, was the role of Sri Krishna as well on the Pandava side."

Explaining India's position while talking to the press, Jaishankar said on Friday, May 5, "As a Foreign Minister of an SCO member state, Mr Bhutto Zardari was treated accordingly. As a promoter, justifier and a spokesperson of a terrorism industry which is the mainstay of Pakistan, his positions were called out and they were countered including at the SCO meeting itself." Quite right. For even as our EAM was making this statement, a gunfight between the Indian army and Pakistan-sponsored terrorists was going on in the forests of Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir. Five of our "White Knight" Bravehearts of 16 Corps were martyred—or as some prefer to call it—killed in action. You don't have to be a strategic genius to know that these attacks are meant to scuttle the forthcoming G20 meeting in Srinagar.

No wonder, Jaishankar did not mince his words: "You know, victims of terrorism do not sit together with perpetrators of terrorism to discuss terrorism. The victims of terrorism defend themselves, counter acts of terrorism, they call it out, they delegitimise it and that is exactly what is happening." Hindu strategic traditions, codified and encapsulated by Kautilya some two millennia ago, recognised "Sama, Dana, Bheda, Danda"—appeasement, bribery, sowing division, and finally, aggression—as valid. Texts as varied as the *Mahabharata* and the *Srimad Bhagavad Purana* justify, even extol, these methods.

As far as Pakistan is concerned, we have excelled, to our own detriment, in the first approach—*sama*, i.e., appeasement, mollification, conciliation. But have we tried the other three?

For instance, I suggested long ago—but once again after the 26/11 attacks against India—that since most Pakistani terrorists are essentially mercenaries, wouldn't it be easier to bribe them at source rather than pay heavy damages later? And to update this strategy, should we not use Taliban groups against Pakistan in a similar manner?

To take the argument forward, we might ask if we have gone far enough in our punitive measures—*danda*—against Pakistan. If we take out twice the number of their assets for each one of ours that they kill, the message might strike home in Islamabad more effectively.

When it comes to *bheda*, too, what Pakistan has been doing in Kashmir and Punjab we might do equally effectively in Sindh and Balochistan. Dismemberment, both threatened and actual, even in little bits, is bound to have its effects on the Pakistani deep state and establishment.

No more sweet-talking Pakistan, as our EAM said: "So, to come here and preach these hypocritical words, as though we are on the same boat, I mean, they are committing acts of terrorism. And you know, I don't want to jump the gun on what happened today [Rajouri attack mentioned above] but I think we are all feeling equally outraged. Let's be very, very clear on this terrorism matter. I will say Pakistan's credibility is depleting even faster than its forex reserves."

These strong words from Jaishankar, we might be assured, signal a welcome shift in our diplomatic offensive against our enemy from birth. The "unsentimental audit of Indian foreign policy" that Jaishankar spoke of in his book has finally resulted in balancing our strategic accounts with Pakistan. Coupled with action on the ground, even in the enemy's territory, such a shift in our diplomatic posture is more likely to yield results.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

WEATHERING THE STORMS THAT LIFE HAS IN STORE

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

Some troubles, alas, are self-created, by our own errors. How do we process that? This tale that I have expanded and retold is taken from several parables of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa. Many of his parables are very short in length but vast and deep in content. It is up to the reader to make sense of them and find the possibilities of recovery after a painful mistake:

Haren was the poor relative of a rich landlord in Bengal. The landlord lived in Calcutta in a fine house. His wife was fond of society and they lived a busy life with parties and soirees. Haren's mother, a distant cousin of the landlord's, brought him to town to ask the landlord for a job for her son.

The landlord had an estate in the countryside. His old steward had recently died and he needed a replacement. He offered Haren the job and said that he could stay with him in Calcutta for a month to learn accounts from his *munshi*.

This proved to be Haren's undoing. The glittering life he saw around him filled him with want. He gawked at the fine things in the mansion, the silver, the marble-topped tables, the silk curtains. He was too shy and too lowly to speak to the landlord's family, staying as he did in the servants' quarters at the back. But he observed from outside how society men behaved with the ladies, the courtesies and flourishes.

Haren wanted to be their equal but knew that it could not be. He was sent to the estate when his month was up, his head full of imaginings. All Haren owned, apart from two sets of dhotis and kurtas, were a few pots and pans. His mother had assembled them for him with some difficulty.

Haren found that he had a free hand at the estate. The other servants were even lowlier than he—the sweeper, the gardener and the cowherd. He chose a comfortable room, unpacked his dented utensils in the kitchen, and thoroughly explored the house. Finding a cupboard open, he discovered knotted bundles of the landlord's clothes and helped himself to a number of fine kurtas, dhotis and shawls. He even found shoes that fit.

Haren strolled around grandly, telling the neighbours that he was the landlord's nephew and the new owner of the estate. This continued for some months until the fateful day that Haren decided to catch a fish. There was an earthen pond on the estate stocked with 'pabda' or catfish. Haren was partial to 'pabda macher jhol', a spicy fish curry, and his mouth watered for it. He laid out the spices he would require and went out to catch a fish.

Stepping into the pond, Haren had just taken hold of a slippery pabda when he heard the sound of carriage wheels. It was the landlord who straightaway spotted Haren catching his fish in his pond, dressed in his clothes. The landlord leapt out of the carriage in fury.

LOGANATHAN

> Haren wanted to be their equal but knew that it could not be. ... All he owned, apart from two sets of dhotis and kurtas, were a few pots and pans

"You thief!" he shouted. "I was coming to give you your wages. Now take this!"

He hauled Haren out roughly and began thrashing him with his cane. He drove him out of the gates and slammed them shut. That was it. Haren was out on the road without his wages, without even his dented pans, his only possession.

Haren wept in shame and humiliation as he stumbled along the road.

"It was just a fish! Why did he kick me out so cruelly?" he sobbed, still refusing to see the point. After a while, he stopped at a small roadside pavilion made by some charitable soul for travellers to rest in. An old sadhu sat there in monumental stillness. But his eyes were keen and bright as he took in Haren's distraught face. Haren saluted him automatically and sat down in a morose heap.

"What is the matter, my boy?" said the sadhu after some time.

"Venerable sir, I am in big trouble," blurted Haren, and poured out his sorry tale.

The sadhu did not say anything at first. After a while, he said gently, "Let me tell you a story."

"Once, an ant discovered a heap of sugar. Just one grain filled its stomach. Carrying another grain, it set off towards its anthill. It thought triumphantly, 'Next time, I will take away the whole sugar hill.' Son, this is how ignorant minds think. They want everything they see whereas the real treasures are three. Firstly, self-respect. It does not come from material things but from honourable conduct and lack of greed. The second treasure is honest effort. Work hard to make something of yourself. You will not be left without even a pan.

Thirdly, seek and find God in everything and everyone around you. When you realise you are part of a Whole, you will not feel cheated and denied by things on the surface." Haren looked on only half-comprehending, so the old sadhu told him another story.

"There was a sadhu once who lived above the *naubat khana* or music room of the temple at Dakshineshwar. He never spoke to anyone and spent all his time meditating on God. One day a big, black cloud suddenly darkened the sky. But after a few minutes, a strong wind blew away the cloud. The holy man came out of his room and began to sing and dance on the verandah.

When asked about this unusual merriment, the sadhu laughed and said, "Such is Maya, the illusion that covers life. First there is a clear sky, then there is a dark cloud and soon it's a clear sky again, just as before."

Haren understood this better. "So my misfortune is just a passing cloud, isn't it?" he asked.

"Indeed it is, if you provide the strong wind of effort to blow it away, praying to God to ease your path," said the old sadhu. Haren was finally consoled and took leave, resolving that he would go back to Calcutta and do better this time.

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

BJP's attitude

Apropos of *Mixing caste and sports shames 'Bhavya Bharat'* (May 7). There may be an iota of truth in Prabhu Chawla's comments that it is basically a war between two dominant castes, but it will not absolve Singh of proving his innocence in the allegations levelled by the wrestlers. It's time for BJP to prove its non-partisan attitude by appointing a high-level committee to unearth the truth and punish the criminals.
Ramalingeswara Rao, email

Political play

During the NDA regime, the sports culture in India has been improving. But we should not spoil this for the dirty play of politics. The women wrestlers' complaints, if detected as true, should not spare the guilty even if he is a superman.
Ravi Nair, Palakkad

Kerala Story

This is with reference to *Day after release, 'The Kerala Story' is tax-free in MP* (May 7). Viewers will learn how ISIS radicalised and recruited Muslims for suicide attacks. The youth will be inspired and learn from history to not be misled, deceived or brainwashed into committing heinous terrorist acts.
Mansoor Dashti, Secunderabad

Bilateral talks

If Pakistan bases bilateral talks with India on the condition that Article 370 be first restored in J&K, that's never going to take place. As the EAM put it, Article 370 has become part of history (*Jaishankar tears into Pak on Kashmir terror* - May 6). India should try and engage in talks with Pakistan if that can eventually ease tension across the border a little.
P Mangalachandran, Kannur

Karnataka polls

There seems to be a keen fight between BJP and Congress in Karnataka. PM Modi's roadshows and Home Minister Amit Shah's tours across the state are an indication of how serious BJP is about retaining the crown. The Congress is also trying to be relevant ahead of the general elections. The country is awaiting the outcome.
Dr D V G Sankararao, Vizianagaram

Pawar's art

Apropos of *Decoding Pawar politics and power optics* (May 7). Sharad Pawar has mastered the art of winning friends and influencing people. His resignation was probably to take the wind out of Ajit's sails. Many non-BJP leaders asking him to stay party chief is an acknowledgement of his role to unite the Opposition for the 2024 elections.
Samiul Hassan Quadri, Bikaner

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 59, No. 108 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Hardeep Singh Puri @HardeepSPuri
Today, every door was opened to us & residents of Jalandhar welcomed us with warmth & love during the door-to-door campaigning

Arvind Kejriwal @ArvindKejriwal
Today, even the court said that there is no material evidence of money laundering. We have been saying that the entire liquor scam is bogus

Netta D'Souza @dnetta
@RahulGandhi ji had a candid conversation with gig workers in Bengaluru today. They discussed the lives of workers, lack of stable employment...

States within rights to do caste survey: Experts

Say such a survey comes under Concurrent List after Patna HC said Bihar exercise is akin to a census operation

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

AS questions are being raised over the legal validity of states conducting caste surveys after Patna High Court stayed an ongoing survey, legal and constitutional experts argue that states are well within their rights to hold caste surveys to collect data of the socially and economically disadvantaged population.

While passing the interim order over the Bihar government's caste survey, the court said that the survey amounted to census operation, which comes under the Union list.

Speaking to this paper, Constitutional expert PDT Achary points out that though the decennial census is conducted by the Union government, states can conduct surveys to collect statistics or data of the socially and economically disadvantaged segment to implement welfare schemes.

An enumerator marks a house during the caste survey in Patna in January | PTI

"High Court staying the survey cannot be considered as a setback. Under the Concurrent List, states have the power to conduct caste surveys. The High Court has stayed the process because it wants to know whether it is a census or not. The census can only be undertaken by the Centre. If the state government wants to implement schemes for a certain section of population, they can do the headcount of that particular section," said Achary. The Bihar government launched the caste survey early this year, to tabulate the socio-economic data for a population of 12.70 crore in the 38 districts of the state. The survey was scheduled to end on May 15.

While passing the interim order to stay the Bihar survey, the two judge bench said, "Prima facie, we are of the opinion that the State has no power to carry out a caste survey in the manner in which it is fashioned now, which would amount to a census, it said. However, speaking to this paper, RJD MP Manoj Jha said that the state has been undertaking a caste survey and not 'Census'. "The state Cabinet has passed a unanimous resolution in 2020 in this regard," he said.

While the demand for nationwide caste census has become a hot button issue for several Opposition parties in the run up to 2024 general election, states like Odisha and Chhattisgarh have initiated the process to tabulate social and educational conditions of people belonging to backward castes in the states.

> **In Karnataka, we conducted the caste survey through the state backward class commission. Through state commissions, states are entitled to conduct surveys to count caste and other socio economic indicators**
>
> Veerappa Moily, former K'taka Chief Minister

Karnataka is a case in point which conducted a caste survey under the Siddaramaiah government in 2015. Speaking to this paper, former Chief Minister and ex-Union Minister Veerappa Moily says that the state conducted the caste survey through the state commission for backward classes, set up in the direction of the Supreme Court.

"In Karnataka, we conducted the caste survey through the state backward class commission... Through state commissions, states are entitled to conduct surveys to count caste and other socio economic indicators," says Moily.

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
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Family Feud

PAWAR'S MOVE AIMED AT HANDING LEGACY TO SUPRIYA

Two weeks before Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar's resignation, his daughter and MP Supriya Sule had said "two earthquakes" would occur in Maharashtra politics in the first half of May. The first was clearly the dramatic resignation announcement and the subsequent U-turn by the Maratha strongman. Political watchers now await the second upheaval. Sources said the second move by Pawar will be his last and most decisive political decision. They said this would be to hand over his political legacy to Supriya by giving her the reins of NCP. By doing so, he will settle the long suspense over who will head the party after him. The third member of the NCP's ruling troika, Ajit Pawar, has long been at the forefront of the race to replace his uncle. He has been next only to Sharad Pawar in the NCP and wields considerable clout among party leaders and cadres. He has been a deputy chief minister and aspires to be a CM and party boss. There are reports that he has been trying to fulfil his ambition by splitting the NCP legislature party and forming a government in alliance with the BJP. But Sharad Pawar got wind of his plans, and what followed appears to have sealed Ajit's fate forever.

General Election 2024

NAVEEN-NITISH MEET: PRE-POLL PACT NOT LIKELY

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has granted an audience to his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar to discuss the possibility of entering into an electoral alliance for the next Lok Sabha elections. Among the issues on table is a pre-poll seat adjustment with like-minded parties. In Odisha, the only party with which Naveen can have an understanding with is the Congress, if the BJD has to be part of the grand opposition alliance. But sources said that the Odisha chief minister is in no mood to join hands with the Congress before the election. There will be no pre-poll seat-sharing agreement with the Congress. According to sources, the BJD boss was reluctant to even meet Nitish Kumar. They said Naveen follows the policy of maintaining equal distance from both the national parties – Congress and the BJP. And he would not change that policy. They, however, did not rule out the possibility of a post-poll understanding if the next general election throws up a hung Lok Sabha.

Haryana Heat

CM'S CLOSE ASSOCIATE ACCUSED OF LAND SCAM

Serious allegations of corruption have been levelled against a person working in a senior position in the office of Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. Documents released indicate this person's accumulation of properties worth hundreds of crores. The official has been working in the chief minister's office since 2014. He was moved out in between and given charge of a department. But he is back in the CM's office in a crucial position. Sources said more incriminating documents against him would be released against him in the coming weeks.

Nitish to meet Naveen on May 9 to take Oppn unity talks forward

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

ENTHUSED by positive response he received from two major regional satraps in his bid to forge a broader Opposition unity against BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha election, Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar will meet another regional strongman and Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik in Bhubaneswar on May 9.

Nitish Kumar

Naveen Patnaik

Earlier, Nitish had met Patnaik on May 5. In view of the busy schedule of the Odisha chief minister, the meeting was postponed to May 9.

Nitish has stepped up his efforts to stitch together an alliance of as many Opposition parties as possible to stop BJP's juggernaut. In this regard, Nitish, along with deputy CM and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, JD (U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh aka Lalan Singh, had met West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee and former Uttar Pradesh chief minister and Samajwadi Party supremo Akhilesh Yadav.

Mamata, who is apparently worried over BJP's impressive show in 2019 Lok Sabha election winning 18 seats, had said, "I have requested just one thing to Nitish Kumar. Jayaprakash ji's movement had begun from Bihar. If we have an all-party meeting in Bihar, we will be able to decide where we have to go next. But first of all, we have to give a message that weare united."

"I have said earlier too that I have no objections. I want BJP to become zero. They have become a big hero with media's support and lies," she had alleged.

Akhilesh also extended his support to Nitish. "They (BJP) want to change the history of India. They must know the history. They are not doing any work but just doing only publicity. We are going to bring together most of the opposition parties and fight the Lok Sabha elections."

Now, Nitish's meeting with Patnaik has triggered much curiosity in the political circles. It will be interesting to see whether Nitish will be able to cut much ice with Odisha CM, given highs and lows in the relationship between his Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and BJP.

Chacko 'led' NCP leaders to oppose Pawar's resignation

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

AFTER all, what made Sharad Pawar change his mind last Friday to keep the party post days after he announced his exit to wailing party leaders? As speculation swirled around within and outside the party, it emerged that it was the 76-year-old PC Chacko, the Kerala NCP unit president and a contemporary of Pawar who brought Pawar around, sources said.

In the process, Chacko might have nipped in the bud the incipient revolt of Ajit Pawar and stemmed the BJP's audacious attempt to split the NCP.

A senior NCP leader said party leader Praful Patel, Ajit Pawar, and others were trying to push the first resolution in the 18-member party committee meeting last Friday to find the successor of Sharad Pawar.

Earlier that day, a person close to Sharad Pawar tried to get a sense from all 18 members of the committee. However, all of them were discreet in their response; heightening the tension among those NCP leaders who wanted Pawar to continue as the party chief.

"Praful Patel tabled the first resolution, which read: "If Sharad Pawar refuses to withdraw his resignation, he should appoint his daughter Supriya Sule as his successor and the next president of the party."

But Chacko raised his voice against the wording of the resolution and vehemently opposed it, saying why Pawar should be given options," said a senior leader requesting anonymity.

"Chacko said, 'We are here to reject Sharad Pawar's resignation, not to find his successor'. There was a big debate. Chacko was joined by state NCP chief Jayant Patil, Jitendra Awhad, NCP youth wing chief Dhirendra Sharma and others. Dilip Walse Patil, Sunil Tatkare and Dhananjay Munde kept mum even as Chhagan Bhujbal kept cracking jokes in the meeting. As the debate intensified, Praful Patel tore up the first resolution draft and threw it into the dustbin," said the source.

The source said: "The issue of the NCP president is not a family matter but the party matter that has to be discussed widely, not with the family members alone."

A senior NCP leader said that Ajit Pawar was annoyed when Praful Patel tore up the first resolution appointing Supriya Sule as Sharad Pawar's successor. That made Ajit Pawar to fall in line.

Ajit Pawar said in the meeting that the committee members should have seriously discussed the proposal. "Pawar saheb is 83 years old, so we should not trouble him much by insisting to continue as the party president. If he has decided to step down, we should respect his decision," Ajit was quoted as saying.

However, Chacko opposed it. "We joined NCP due to Pawar saheb, not his successor. For the larger interest of the party and nation, he should continue as party chief, Chacko insisted," said another NCP source.

Then, Praful Patel brought the second resolution rejecting Sharad Pawar's resignation. The second proposal was unanimously passed and it was accepted by Pawar immediately," said the senior NCP leader.

A committee member said the panel members were relieved when Chacko took the lead. "The reason is we were not able to argue with Praful Patel and Ajit Pawar due their seniority in the party. But Chacko gave us a voice and boosted our morale," he added.

IAS officer kingpin of ₹2K cr liquor scam in Chhattisgarh, alleges ED

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

THE Enforcement Directorate has alleged that Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Anil Tuteja was the 'kingpin' of an illegal liquor syndicate in Chhattisgarh along with liquor businessman Anwar Dhebar and the corruption money was also used for electioneering.

The ED said its investigation also revealed that from 2019 to 2022, the sale of 'unaccounted illicit' liquor was almost 30-40 per cent of the total liquor sale in the state. In its application filed in a special court in Raipur on Saturday seeking remand of liquor businessman Anwar Dhebar, the ED said there was a massive liquor trade scam in Chhattisgarh by a syndicate comprising high-level state government officials, private persons and political executives that generated corruption money of more than Rs 2,000 crore.

Anwar Dhebar was arrested on May 6 under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) 2002 in connection with the alleged liquor scam and subsequently was sent for four-day ED custody. Dhebar is the brother of Congress leader and Raipur Mayor Aijaz Debhar. Tuteja, a 2003 batch IAS officer, is currently posted as the joint secretary in state's industry and commerce department.

The agency filed a case last year against Tuteja and others to investigate the matter under the PMLA on the basis of prosecution complaint filed by the Income Tax Department in a Delhi court against Tuteja and others, it said.

The ED alleged a criminal syndicate was active with an elaborate network allegedly involving high level political executives and senior bureaucrats who were extending support in which "money was being illegally collected from every bottle of liquor sold in Chhattisgarh." Tuteja was managing the affairs and was the kingpin of this illegal syndicate along with Anwar,' it alleged.

Detailing out the operations, the ED sources said investigations have revealed that the syndicate was benefiting from at least three levels of this organised scam. Firstly, commission of Rs 75 to 150 per case (depending on type of liquor) was being collected by the syndicate from the suppliers for each accounted cash procured by Chhattisgarh State Marketing Corporation Limited (CSMCL). These included illegal commission charged from liquor suppliers for accounted its sale in the state, sale of off-the-record unaccounted country liquor from state run shops and annual commission paid to allow distillers to operate in the state, it said.

"This happened despite the fact that in Chhattisgarh, the state controls all the aspects of liquor trade from procurement to retail sale to consumers and no private liquor shops are allowed. All 800 liquor shops are run by the State. The CSMCL centrally procures all the liquor sold in Chhattisgarh. ED investigation has revealed that in the years 2019-2020,-2021-2022, this kind of illegal sale was almost 30-40% of the total sale of the liquor in the State. It is estimated that in total ₹2,000 crore was generated by the syndicate in a short span from 2019 to 2022.

"The entire sale was off the books and sale consideration was siphoned off with everyone in the illegal chain getting its share including - distillers, transporters, hologram makers, bottle maker, excise official, higher echelons of Excise Department, Anwar Dhebar, politicians and senior IAS officials," the ED alleged.

with added inputs from PTI

Govt keen on 'all women' R-Day parade in 2024

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE government is looking to have an all women Republic Day Parade 2024 in which only the women will participate in tableaux and cultural performances, besides the marching contingents and band. However, the stakeholders have been raising issues as the plan has "practical problems".

The decision was taken after this year's Republic Day while at a debriefing meeting of the Ministry of Defence (MoD), services and various other ministries and departments. The meeting was chaired by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane in February, according to an Office Memorandum (OM) issued on March 01, 2023.

The OM says, "After the detailed deliberations, it has been decided that the Republic Day 2024 will be having only women participants in the contingents (marching and band), tableaux and other performances during the Parade at Kartavya Path,".

The OM has been sent to "all the participating ministries, departments, organisations and agencies" and have been, "therefore, requested to start the preparation accordingly from now,". The progress in this regard may be apprised to MoD time to time.

But, as the sources say, with the subsequent deliberations on the issue, since the original OM was issued, the matter continues to be discussed.

Women personnel marching at the Republic Day parade | FILE PHOTO

It has also sent a letter to ministries like home affairs, culture and urban development about its decision.

It must be noted that the women have been participating in the marching contingents of Indian armed forces and paramilitary forces as contingent commanders and deputy commanders.

In its process to promote gender equality several steps have been taken which includes giving command roles to women officers, grooming them for future leadership roles, and allowing them to join the regiment of artillery.

Apprehensions have been raised regarding the initiative since the OM was issued. While the services do not have women in the soldier ranks barring a small number of women into the Corps of Military Police in the Army and the Navy which allowed women to join the service as Agniveers.

The maximum number of the Marching Contingents is from the Infantry of the Indian Army which doesn't allow women, neither as officers nor at the personnel below Officers Rank. There are no women in the Armoured Regiment of the Army also.

It was only last month that the first batch of five women officers were inducted into the Regiment of Artillery, a decision which was taken by Army Chief General Manoj Pande in January this year.

Women officers of Territorial Army to get posted at LoC

In a major development, Ministry of Defence, Department of Military Affairs, has approved amendment to existing cadre management provisions for Women Officers of the Territorial Army (TA).

Women Officers of the Territorial Army will now be posted with Engineer Regiments of the Territorial Army serving along the Line of Control and as staff officers at TA Group Headquarters/ Directorate General of Territorial Army at New Delhi, as per organizational requirement.

Territorial Army had commenced Commissioning of Women Officers in TA since 2019. Thus far these Woman Officers were able to serve Ecological Task Force Units, TA Oil sector units and TA Railway Engineer Regiment. Based on the experience gained during this period, a considered proposal was prepared to extend the employment scope further for women officers in TA which has now been approved by the Defence Minister in April this year.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Police have arrested three men and a woman for allegedly selling a 17-year-old-girl for ₹50,000 to a person in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district, an official said on Sunday.

01 HELD FOR DRAGGING STRAY DOG TO DEATH IN CGARH

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	40	27	Mumbai	33	28
Bhopal	39	25	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	39	25	Patna	40	25
Amritsar	35	19	Lucknow	38	23
Chennai	35	28	Port Blair	34	27
Kolkata	40	28	Imphal	34	15
Srinagar	15	08	Chandigarh	37	19

5 terror attacks ahead of J&K G-20 meet

Security tightened in north Kashmir, especially in areas where foreign delegates may visit

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AHEAD of the G-20 tourism meeting in Srinagar later this month, the militancy violence has suddenly witnessed a surge in Jammu and Kashmir with the UT witnessing five militancy-related incidents within span of four days. A massive combing and search operation by security forces is going on in Rajouri forests to track down a group of militants involved in twin attacks.

There have been five encounters between militants and security forces in J&K since May 3. Of the five encounters, two took place within Kashmir, one at the Line of Control (LoC) in the Valley and two in the dense Kandi forest area of the border district of Rajouri in the Jammu region. Before May, only three encounters had taken place in the Valley in the first four months of 2023 during which four militants were killed. In May, twin encounters (May 3 and May 6) took place in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, in which three local Lashkar militants were killed.

It was the first encounter between militants and security forces in north Kashmir this year.

After the twin encounters, the security arrangements have been tightened in north Kashmir, especially in the ski resort of Gulmarg, where the foreign delegates are likely to visit during the G-20 meeting in Srinagar from May 22-24.

Security forces on Sunday recovered an IED in Pulwama district | PTI

On May 3, the Army also foiled an infiltration bid of militants at the Line of Control (LoC) in the Machil sector of Kupwara.

On May 5, an encounter took place between a group of hiding militants and army men engaged in a massive combing operation in the Kandi forest area of Rajouri. During the encounter, militants triggered a powerful Improvised Explosive Device (IED) explosion killing five soldiers and critically injuring a Major.

A day after the blast, army men during the search operation in the Kandi forest area killed a militant while another was injured. More reinforcements have been rushed to the forest area to assist the army, police and paramilitary personnel during the ongoing massive combing operation to track down the militants. Army has been using drones and helicopters during the search operation to track the movement of militants while the specially trained para troopers are also assisting the security men on the ground in the anti-militancy operation.

Police officials said the forces were alert to thwart any possible plan of militants to carry out attacks in the run-up to the event. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) of Baramulla Amod Ashok Nagpure said the intelligence grid was working very hard and the forces have been able to neutralize the threats.

"Our forces are on alert for the summit. Our intelligence agencies are also working hard, our network is very strong. So, we are getting timely information of all the suspicious activities in the area,' Nagpure said.

He said the security agencies are confident that the summit will pass off peacefully and successfully 'because of our preparedness'. The SSP said the security forces have been able to neutralize the threats as there is a complete synergy among various agencies. The holding of the G-20 meeting in Srinagar from May 22-24 assumes significance as it is the first major international meeting to be held in Kashmir Post abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A by the Centre on August 5, 2019.

Meanwhile, security forces on Sunday recovered an IED in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Based on questioning of terrorist associate Ishfaq Ahmad Wani, security forces recovered the 5 kg IED at Arigam on the Pulwama-Shopian road, they said.

With inputs from agencies

Our forces are on alert for the summit. Our intelligence agencies are also working hard, our network is very strong. So, we are getting timely information of all the suspicious activities in the area

Amod Ashok Nagpure, Senior Superintendent of Police, Baramulla

'Sleaze gate' heats up two days before Jalandhar bypolls

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE "objectionable" videos of Punjab Food and Civil Supplies Minister **Lal Chand Kataruchak** caught in the act of 'sexual misconduct' is not morphed and is genuine, and that Governor Banwarilal Purohit has sent the findings of the forensic report to Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, sources said.

The episode will affect the ruling AAP's prospects in the Jalandhar Lok Sabha bypolls slated for May 10.

On Saturday, the governor sent his report to CM Mann attaching the forensic report of the two video clippings with the complaint made by Congress MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira who has demanded the expulsion of the minister from the state cabinet.

Chandigarh DGP Praveer Ranjan had submitted the forensic report to the governor following Purohit's directive to the police to check the authenticity of the video clippings submitted by Khaira.

The other person in the two video clippings – one is of three minutes and other, eight minutes – had approached the National Commission for Scheduled Caste on Friday had issued a notice to the Punjab chief secretary and DGP to get the matter investigated and asked for a report from the government. It had also asked the state government to provide security to the victim, said to be from Pathankot.

The Congress, SAD, and the BJP have demanded that the minister should be immediately dropped from the cabinet and arrested. BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said, "This is a terrifying story of sexual exploitation. Kataruchak has exploited an SC boy. We demand an immediate resignation of the minister and an impartial probe."

KOLKATA DIARY

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
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Kolkata civic body to water trees on holidays

With extreme heat conditions in the city for several days, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has revised its schedule for watering trees. The civic body will be watering all the trees on median dividers and green verges along pavements every day till the end of the month, including the holidays. Earlier, the trees were not watered on holidays. An IMD forecast on April 28 stated that eastern India, including most parts of Bihar, Jharkhand, Gangetic Bengal, eastern Uttar Pradesh and Odisha could experience two to six extra heatwave days in May. The decision to water trees every day in May could be useful if the forecast of IMD turns into reality. The civic body has 12 tankers.

State aims for 3,55,000 EVs by end of 2030

A comprehensive electric mobility plan project in the Kolkata metropolitan area, which includes Kolkata, Howrah and Bidhannagar will have around 3,55,000 electric vehicles (EVs) by the end of 2030, according to a report. The EVs will comprise 312,065 two-wheelers, 6,258 three-wheelers, 23,108 private four-wheelers, and 23,108 commercial four-wheelers, according to the report by Niti Aayog and the Asian Development Bank. The Central Government aims for 30 per cent sale of new vehicles by 2030.

Digital platform for Sri Ramakrishna teachings

The Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission launched a digital platform offering free access to the lives and teachings of Sri Ramakrishna, Sri Sarada Devi, Swami Vivekananda and related literature in English and major Indian languages. The reason behind the launching of the digital platform is the growing prominence of the teachings of Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda has resulted in the spread of fabricated stories about them, said a senior monk of the organisation. The platform—http://publications.rkmm.org—offers a curated collection of materials associated with the trio and the disciples of Sri Ramakrishna. Senior monks said social media had given a boost to the spread of inaccurate information about Sri Ramakrishna, Sri Sarada Devi and Vivekananda.

5 COPS BOOKED

Mob-lynching accused beaten to death in J'khand jail

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

AMID the horrific stabbing of gangster Tillu Tajpuriya in high-security Tihar jail on Tuesday, a 35-year-old accused of mob lynching was allegedly thrashed to death by the policemen under judicial custody in Latehar jail. The incident took place on Saturday, three days day after the accused was sent to judicial custody, for which, an FIR has been lodged against five policemen.

Initially, doctors claimed that the man died of an epilepsy attack but when the family members noticed several marks on the body, they staged a dharna demanding FIR against those responsible for the alleged killing of accused Sendhu Munda.

Later, on the basis of the statement of the Jail Superintendent, an FIR was lodged against five policemen under section 304/34 of IPC at Latehar Police Station. According to the application written by Jail Superintendent, after looking into the matter, it was found that the five policemen thrashed Sendhu Munda badly due to which his condition deteriorated and was referred to Sadar Hospital by the medical officer at the jail. He died during treatment.

GORKHA HIRES TO FIGURE IN NEPAL PM'S INDIA VISIT

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE thorny issue of recruiting Nepalese youth into Indian Army's Gorkha Regiments is expected to be taken up during the visit of Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda to India next month, sources told TNIE.

Recruitment drives remain suspended in Nepal as Kathmandu has decided not to allow its citizens to join to the Indian Army under the Agnipath scheme. "We have been trying to convince the senior functionaries of the Nepalese government to let the recruitments begin," sources said.

Pushpa Kamal Dahal

Senior Army officers have visited Nepal in recent months to hold discussions with the Nepal Army brass. However, nothing much has happened on the ground as the political leadership in Nepal has reservations about the Agnipath scheme.

The issue is further delayed because Prachanda's India trip was deferred. He was expected to visit India this month but now the visit is tentatively scheduled for June due to the fluid political situation there.

India brought in the Agnipath recruitment scheme in June 2022. A recruitment rally of the Indian Army was planned in Butwal city of Nepal from August 25. However, Nepal's foreign minister Narayan Khadka informed the Indian Ambassador in Nepal to keep it on hold, saying: "If the Nepalese youths are to be recruited for four years with no pensions, there is a need to discuss with all political parties in Nepal and build consensus."

Prior to the introduction of the Agnipath, Nepalese youths were recruited under a tripartite agreement between India, Nepal and Britain, allowing continued recruitment of Nepalese into the armies of India and Britain.

According to Indian Army sources, Agnipath neither violates the tripartite agreement nor discriminates against anyone. "The Gorkhas would get the same salaries and facilities as what their Indian counterparts would," they said.

The Agniveer scheme was introduced keeping in view the changing nature of modern warfare and also geopolitical changes in the Himalayan region in the post 1962 onwards, said Nihar Nayak, research fellow at MP-IDSA, New Delhi.

Chouhan in Delhi as murmurs of discontent grows in MP BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

A day after ex-chief minister late Kailash Joshi's son Deepak Joshi, himself a former minister, quit BJP and joined Congress, Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on Sunday flew to New Delhi.

Sources close to the CM maintained that the visit to the national capital had no political connotations as nearly the entire top national leadership of the saffron party was out of Delhi, busy in the last stretch of May 10 Karnataka Assembly polls campaign.

With the Delhi visit happening amid growing rebellious voices of many BJP veterans in MP, the opposition Congress's state media in-charge KK Mishra claimed that the CM was in Delhi to address his party's top bosses' concerns about the uncontrollable situation of dissent in the saffron party in the state.

Importantly, Joshi, the three-time former BJP MLA, after joining the Congress on Saturday targeted the MP CM. Joshi even targeted Chouhan for the death of his Covid positive wife (Deepak Joshi's wife) during the killer Covid wave in 2021 in the want of an ambulance.

While Joshi had quit BJP and joined the Congress, many other senior BJP leaders, including ex-MLA and poet Satyanarayan Sattan, two-times former MLA Bhawar Singh Shekhawat (both from Indore), ex-PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's nephew Anup Mishra (who has been an ex MP minister and formerly MP and MLA from Gwalior-Chambal region) and Uma Bharti-loyalist powerful Jain community leader Mukesh Jain Dhana (from Bundelkhand region) have been talking continuously in rebellious and concerning tones over growing clout of Jyotiraditya Scindia-loyalists at the cost of party old timers.

Senior party leaders, including former Rajya Sabha member and veteran Brahmin politician Raghunandan Sharma (who tried his best to convince Joshi not join the Congress) and present party national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya have expressed concern over the developing situation. "Congress doesn't have the power to defeat the BJP. It's BJP only which can defeat the BJP. If the mistakes by the party organization aren't corrected timely, then BJP will defeat the BJP," said Vijayvargiya, who is among the 14 senior leaders deputed by the party to pacify the disgruntled leaders across the state, where assembly polls are slated by the year-end.

Party veteran and ex-Rajya Sabha member Raghunandan Sharma said: "I've heard that there are five prabharis (in-charges) deputed for the state party organization, but they don't seem to be running the organization effectively, which is reflected by growing communication gap in the state party. Amid the presence of the five prabharis, the durdasha (plight) within the party seems to resemble the misery of Draupadi, who had five husbands."

Importantly, the CM had met in Bhopal on Saturday, many senior leaders of the party, including disgruntled former MLAs Satyanarayan Sattan and Bhawar Singh Shekhawat.

He came, he sow and conquered hearts of people of Ramgarh in U'khand

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE recent ceremonial coronation of Prince Charles as King of Britain is also the subject of a remarkable story by a farmer near Dehradun. Charles, the prince-turned-king of Britain, has been a farmer in the Ramgarh hamlet of Dehradun for 70 years and has planted seeds there. After observing Rajesh, a farmer from the nearby village of Bhudpur, on the field in 2013, Charles too voiced his wish to use a plough, but he was unable to do so for security reasons.

However, Rajesh had emphasised on organic farming, saying it could lower the rising cost of agriculture and free farmers from debt." King Charles' coronation on Saturday, May 6, was a momentous occasion for both the British and the residents of Ramgarh in Dehradun.

On their televisions, people from all around the world were watching this coronation ceremony live. On November 7, 2013, King Charles III of Britain visited Dehradun as a prince. The Ramgarh residents were overwhelmed with emotion as they relived the events of the previous 10 years as they had watched Charles plant barley seeds in farmer Rajesh's field.

King Charles III of Britain during his Dehradun visit in 2013 | FILE PHOTO

Charles had stated that the cost of farming must be reduced so that farmers do not have to get into debt and die by suicide, said Rajesh. When King Charles arrived in Ramgarh, he noticed neem and 'reetha' trees. He was shocked to learn that 'reetha' is the substance used to make soap. King Charles founded the 'Highgroup' organisation, which promotes a healthy diet on a global scale.

Seven injured in blast near Golden Temple

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

ABOUT seven people were injured in a blast that took place on a street near the Golden Temple in Amritsar late on Saturday night.

The police are probing what triggered the blast, but have ruled out a terror angle. The incident took place around midnight near a parking lot in front of the Saragarhi Sarai, an inn for pilgrims, on Heritage Street.

Several tourists were walking on the street when the blast took place. The impact shattered the windowpanes of nearby buildings. Locals residents said six girls traveling on an auto rickshaw and a person lying on a bench were injured by shattered glass shards. The incident sparked panic with people assuming it to be a terrorist attack. The police said the situation is under control and appealed to the people to maintain calm.

TENSE CALM AS CURFEW EASED IN PARTS OF VIOLENCE-HIT MANIPUR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

A tense calm prevailed in Manipur on Sunday after days of ethnic violence. Curfew was relaxed for some time in parts of the state including the Churachandpur district, the epicenter of violence, with security forces keeping a close watch on the situation.

People came out in large numbers to buy essential items. Immediately after the relaxation period ended, personnel of the Army and Assam Rifles staged a flag march in the areas.

"The past 24 hours saw the Army significantly increasing surveillance efforts through aerial surveillance, movement of UAVs, and redeployment of Army helicopters within the Imphal Valley," an official statement said.

So far, around 23,000 civilians have been evacuated from conflict areas. They are housed in to military garrisons. A few thousand fled to neighbouring states of Assam and Mizoram.

Civilians being evacuated from the violence-affected areas of Manipur, on Sunday | ANI

Meanwhile, several states started evacuating their people from Manipur. A multi-agency team evacuated 676 Nagas by buses to Nagaland on Sunday. The Meghalaya government evacuated over 100 students on commercial flights. The governments of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal are also taking measures to evacuate their people.

New chief secretary

In a significant development, the state government on Sunday appointed Dr Vineet Joshi as the Chief Secretary

Russia promises ammo to stay in Bakhmut: Wagner

Mercenary group's chief says everything necessary will be provided

MOSCOW

THE head of the Wagner mercenary group said on Sunday Russia had promised his fighters enough ammunition to stay in Bakhmut, after threatening to pull out in scathing videos.

Rivalries between Yevgeny Prigozhin and the conventional army came to the surface during the battle for the eastern Ukrainian town, where Wagner is leading the assault.

It comes as Russia has reported increasing drone strikes and sabotage, amid speculations of an expected spring counteroffensive from Ukraine.

"Overnight, we received a combat order... they promised to give us all the ammunition and armaments we need to continue the operations" in Bakhmut, Prigozhin said.

His group has been assured "that everything necessary will be provided," he added.

On Friday, he threatened to pull out of Bakhmut on May 10, in a series of blistering, heavily bleeped-out videos, blaming Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov for "tens of thousands" of Russian casualties. "Their unprofessionalism is destroying tens of thousands of Russian guys and that is unforgivable," he said at the time.

Prigozhin has for months accused the conventional army of refusing to deliver ammunition to his men.

On Sunday, Prigozhin said Russian General Sergei Surovikin, who is one of Gerasimov's deputies, would oversee Wagner's operations. "He is the only decorated general that knows how to fight," Prigozhin said in a fresh dig at Russia's other army chiefs.

Surovikin, who has a reputation for ruthlessness praised by Wagner, was named military commander in Ukraine in October.

Meanwhile on Saturday, the commander of Ukraine's ground forces, Oleksandr Syrsky, visited the eastern front.

"The enemy is not going to change its plans and is doing everything possible to take control of Bakhmut," Syrsky said on Sunday.

Reports of drone strikes and sabotage attempts have multiplied, which experts suggest are part of Ukraine's preparation for the counteroffensive.

The strikes precede Russia's May 9 public holiday, a central event under President Vladimir Putin that celebrates the Soviet victory over the Nazis in World War II.

On Sunday, the Russian army said it repelled 22 Ukrainian drones over Black Sea. *AFP*

IAEA's worries grow over Kyiv N-plant safety

KYIV

THE head of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog expressed growing anxiety about the safety of a Russian-occupied nuclear power plant near the front lines of fighting in Ukraine after the Moscow-installed governor of the area ordered the evacuation of the city where most plant staff live.

Ukrainian authorities on Sunday said that a 72-year-old woman was killed and three others were wounded when Russian forces fired more than 30 shells at the city of Nikopol, which is almost directly opposite the plant.

"The general situation in the area near the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant is becoming increasingly unpredictable and potentially dangerous," International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Rafael Grossi said on Saturday. "I'm extremely concerned about the very real nuclear safety and security risks facing the plant, he added.

Grossi spent months unsuccessfully trying to persuade Russia and Ukrainie to establish a security zone. *AP*

Arab governments vote for Syria's return to the Arab League after 12 yrs

CAIRO

ARAB government representatives in Cairo voted on Sunday to return Syria to the Arab League after a 12-year long suspension, according to the organisation.

The vote in the Egyptian capital came days after regional top diplomats met in Jordan to discuss a roadmap to return Syria to the Arab fold as the conflict continues to de-escalate, and soon before Saudi Arabia hosts the upcoming Arab League Summit on May 19.

Syria's membership in the Arab League was suspended 12 years ago early on in the uprising-turned-conflict, which has killed nearly a half million people since March 2011 and displaced half of the country's pre-war population of 23 million.

In this photo released by Egypt's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, delegates of member states convene at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo, Egypt on Sunday | AP

All 13 of the 22 member states that attended the session endorsed the decision.

The Arab League generally tries to reach agreements by consensus but sometimes opts for simple majorities.

There is still no Arab consensus on normalisation with Damascus. Several governments did not attend the meeting. Among the most notable absentees was Qatar, which continues to back opposition groups against Syrian President Bashar Assad's government, and continues to resist normalisation with Damascus.

The decision for Syria to return also includes a commitment to ongoing dialogue with Arab governments to gradually reach a political solution to the conflict, in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2254.

The Arab League in the decision also set up a communications committee consisting of Saudi Arabia and Syria's neighbours Lebanon, Jordan as well as Iraq to follow up on the developments.

In addition to commitments to a gradual resolution to the conflict, the decision also welcomed the Syrian government's willingness to cooperate with Arab countries to resolve "humanitarian, security, and political" crises that affected Syria and the region due to the conflict—namely refugees, "the threat of terrorism and drug smuggling." *AP*

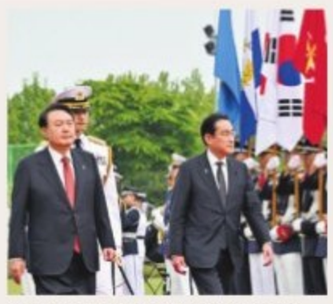
Japan PM expresses sympathy for Korean colonial victims

Japan's PM expressed sympathy for the suffering of Korean forced labourers during Japan's colonial rule, as he and his South Korean counterpart on Sunday renewed resolve to overcome historical grievances and strengthen cooperation

SECOND SUMMIT

Comments by Japanese PM Fumio Kishida during his second summit in less than two months with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol are closely watched in Seoul

Kishida arrived in South Korea for a two-day visit, which reciprocates a mid-March trip to Tokyo by Yoon and marks the first exchange of visits between the leaders of the Asian neighbours in 12 years



Japanese PM Fumio Kishida (R) and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol in Seoul on Sunday | AP

AVOIDING DIRECT APOLOGY

Kishida's statement, which avoided a new, direct apology over the colonisation but still sympathised with the Korean victims, suggests he felt pressure to say something to maintain momentum for improved ties

"I have strong pain in my heart as I think of the extreme difficulty and sorrow that many people had to suffer under the severe environment in those days," Kishida said, referring to Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule

RESOLVING DISPUTES

The back-to-back summits were largely meant to resolve the countries' bitter disputes caused by the 2018 court rulings in South Korea that ordered two Japanese firms to financially compensate some of their aging former Korean employees for colonial-era forced labour

Japan has refused to abide by the verdicts, arguing that all compensation issues were already settled when the two countries normalised ties in 1965

In March, however, Yoon's government took a major step toward mending the ties by announcing it would use local funds to compensate the forced labour victims without demanding contributions from Japanese firms

Later in March, Yoon travelled to Tokyo to meet with Kishida, and the two agreed to resume leadership-level visits and other talks. Their governments have since taken steps to withdraw their economic retaliatory steps against each other

ISI involved in journalist's murder: Imran

LAHORE

PAKISTAN'S former Prime Minister Imran Khan has alleged that top ISI officer Major-General Faisal Naseer, who tried to kill him twice, was also involved in the brutal murder of senior journalist Arshad Sharif. Imran's remarks came while he was addressing a rally in Lahore.

"Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)'s Major-General Faisal Naseer tried to kill me twice. He is also involved in the killing of (TV anchor) Arshad Sharif. He also stripped my party Senator Azam Swati naked and inflicted severe torture on him," Pakistan-Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran said.

Arshad Sharif, who was critical of the Army, was killed in Kenya last October as he fled the country citing threats to his life from the security agencies.

The shooting dead of the investigative journalist by police in Kenya caused outrage in Pakistan.

Kenya's police, in an initial report, had said the 49-year-old was shot dead in a moving vehicle in a case of mistaken identity. *PTI*

In London, Lula calls for efforts to free WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange

RIO DE JANEIRO

AFTER attending the coronation of King Charles III in london, Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva denounced the lack of concerted efforts to free WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, who has spent four years in Britain's Belmarsh Prison.

"It is an embarrassment that a journalist who denounced trickery by one state against another is arrested, condemned to die in jail and we do nothing to free him. It's a crazy thing," Lula said. "We talk about freedom of expression; the guy is in prison because he denounced wrongdoing. And the press doesn't do anything in defense of this journalist. I can't understand it."

Lula offered the remarks in response to a question about Assange, who is a native Australian.

Assange has been fighting extradition to the United States, and Lula's comments come at a moment that he has shown little reluctance to voice his differences of opinion with Washington regarding geopolitical matters, particularly in his opposition to providing arms to Ukraine for its war against Russia, and accusing the US and Europe of encouraging the fighting. His stance and repeated statements have drawn sharp rebukes from the White House and Europe.

For its part, Australia has been stepping up diplomatic pressure on the US government to call off its prosecution of Assange.

On Friday, Australia's Prime Minister Albanese told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. in an interview that "enough is enough. There is nothing to be served by his ongoing incarceration."

Assange has battled in British courts for years to avoid being sent to the US, where he faces 17 charges of espionage and one charge of computer misuse that stem from WikiLeaks' publication of a huge trove of classified documents in 2010. *AP*

Satellite images show oil tankers Iran seized south off Bandar Abbas

DUBAI

TWO oil tankers recently seized by Iran are anchored off the coast of one of its key port cities on the strategic Strait of Hormuz, according to satellite photos analysed by *AP* on Sunday.

The photos from Planet Labs PBC showed the Advantage Sweet and the Niovi being just south of Bandar Abbas near a naval base in the port city in Iran's Hormozgan province on Saturday. Their capture represents just the latest ship seizure conducted by Iran amid tensions with the West over its rapidly advancing nuclear programme, though it appears the two ships may have been taken for different reasons.

This satellite image shows the seized oil tanker Advantage Sweet off the coast of Bandar Abbas, Iran on Saturday | AP

Iran seized the Marshall Islands-flagged Advantage Sweet, staffed by 23 Indians and one Russian, on April 27 as it travelled in the Gulf of Oman. Tehran claimed the vessel had struck another ship, though tracking data for the Advantage Sweet showed no erratic behaviour on its trip. Iran has made claims in the past over ship seizures to cover for the vessels being taken to use as pawns in negotiations with the West.

The Advantage Sweet carried Kuwaiti crude oil for American energy firm Chevron Corp. of San Ramon, California, at the time of its capture. And its seizure comes as another tanker believed to be carrying Iranian crude disappeared from anchorage off Singapore a year after being identified as trying to evade US sanctions.

The Financial Times, as well as the maritime intelligence firm Ambrey, both have reported that ship named Suez Rajan was seized by order of American authorities. US officials and those associated with the Suez Rajan have not responded to questions about the tanker's disappearance.

Satellite images showed a second ship, the Niovi, a Panama-flagged tanker, which was seized by Iran's Revolutionary Guard on Wednesday as it left a dry dock in Dubai, bound for Fujairah on the UAE's eastern coast. *AP*

ASIA MATTERS

SINGAPORE

PLANTATION TO MARK LEE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Some 10,000 trees will be planted across Singapore to mark the 100th year since the birth of the city-state's founding Prime Minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew. Lee, who died in 2015, had launched the first nationwide tree-planting campaign in 1963 and introduced the 'Garden City' vision in May 1967, which started a greening movement that has lasted for decades. Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Lawrence Wong, who kicked off the LKY100 series of initiatives on Sunday with tree planting day, noted that Lee's goal was to make Singapore clean and green to improve the quality of life for all Singaporeans

INDONESIA

20 TRAFFICKING VICTIMS FREED

Indonesian officials said on Sunday they freed 20 of their nationals who were trafficked to Myanmar as part of a cyber scam. Indonesia's Foreign Affairs Ministry said that its embassy in Yangon had managed to release the victims from Myawaddy township and brought them to the Thai border. The Indonesian Embassy in Bangkok will work closely with Thai authorities to repatriate the victims to Indonesia

THAILAND

PEOPLE QUEUE AS EARLY VOTING BEGINS

Thais queued under the blistering sun outside temples, shopping centres and schools to cast their early ballots on Sunday ahead of a much-anticipated election next week. More than two million Thais nationwide are registered to vote early ahead of the kingdom's May 14 election. "I hope this election will change the country in a better way," said shopping mall worker Srisuda Wongsaad, 28, after casting her ballot. She was among hundreds queuing quietly at a polling station in Bangkok's Ekkamai to vote at the Wat That Thong. Elsewhere in the capital, the Royal Paragon Hall shopping centre was packed with voters

AT YOUR SERVICE

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak hands over a slice of cake to a guest as he attends the Big Lunch party at Downing Street in London on Sunday. The Big Lunch is part of the weekend of celebrations for the Coronation of King Charles III | AP

EXPRESS READ

Three persons killed in avalanche in Nepal

Kathmandu: At least three persons were killed and nine others were injured in an avalanche in Nepal's Karnali province, a media report said on Sunday. The incident occurred on Saturday morning at Chyarkhu pass of Mugu district of the province, the *Kathmandu Post* reported. Officials said that fourteen people from Patarasi municipality in the district had gone Chyarkhu. Of them three passed away and nine others sustained minor injuries in the avalanche. "So far in the incident a total of three people have died and nine others have got injured. A team of police personnel moved to the incident site," report said.

Pak SC judges required to follow constitution: CJP

Islamabad: Pakistan's Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial said on Sunday that the Supreme Court judges were duty-bound to follow the Constitution and must not "blink" their eyes while enforcing its provision of holding polls within 90 days of an assembly's dissolution. The chief justice said he was optimistic that the country's leaders, institutions and people were all committed to the Constitution. "When it comes to constitutional enforcement we must not blink our eyes. If it says 90 days for holding elections, it is our duty to say that and not our choice, instead of finding a reason why we should avoid saying that," he said.

Belarusian jailed over caricature dies in prison

Moscow: A Belarusian man jailed over a satirical drawing of President Alexander Lukashenko has died in prison, independent human rights group Viasna reported on Sunday. Since the 2020 protests against his re-election, Lukashenko has doubled down on repressing critical voices. Nikolai Klimovich died in penal colony number 3 in Belarus' northern Vitebsk region. In February 2023, a Belarusian court had found Klimovich guilty of "insulting" the Belarusian leader over a satirical picture posted on social media. A judge sentenced him to a year in prison, despite the fact that he suffered from a serious heart disability.

UN aid chief in Saudi Arabia for Sudan talks

Khartoum: The United Nations' top aid official arrived in Saudi Arabia on Sunday for ceasefire talks between Sudan's warring generals, as concern grows for the humanitarian situation at the start of a fourth week of gun battles and air strikes in the Sudanese capital. Martin Griffiths, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, was in Jeddah on Sunday "and the purpose of his visit is to engage in humanitarian issues related to Sudan," spokesperson Eri Kaneko said. However, there was no indication that Griffiths would play a direct role in the Saudi discussions about a possible ceasefire.

₹10,850 cr have been infused by foreign portfolio investors in Indian equity markets in the last four trading sessions due to stable macroeconomic environment.

Time to add glitter to your portfolio as gold prices soar

The yellow metal might see some corrections in the near term, and this could be used as a buying opportunity to invest in the precious metal

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

IN a world bruised by Russia-Ukraine war and the crisis-hit global banking system, gold emerges as the only asset that has given better-than-expected returns to investors. Taking benefit of financial instability in the global economy, gold prices have hit an all-time high. Last week, the price of yellow metal touched a record high of ₹ 61,490 per 10 gram on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX).

At a time when the stock market is volatile, gold has delivered stellar returns among all asset classes in the first quarter of the current year. Despite the high prices, the charm of yellow metal is intact among retail investors who look for decent returns.

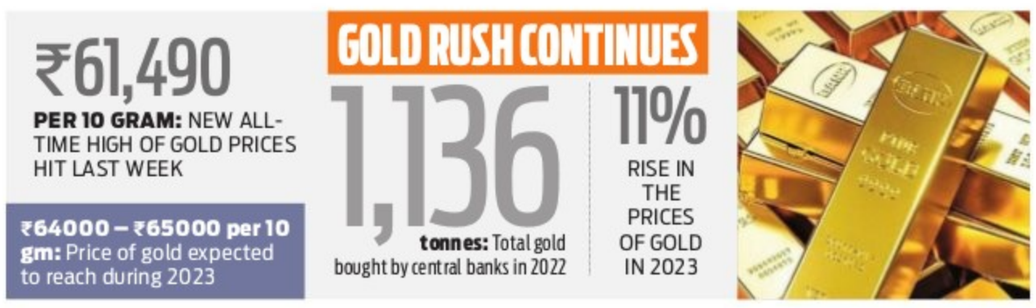
Why is gold rising

The prices of the yellow metal have risen by around 11% since the start of 2023 while in the previous financial year (2022-23), gold prices have increased to ₹60,000 per 10 gram at the end of March this year from ₹52,000 in April 2022, reflecting a rise of around 15%.

Global factors are pushing up the prices of gold, experts say. In the past one year, the world has seen the war between Russia and Ukraine, monetary tightening due to steep hikes in interest rates by the US Federal Reserve and collapse of banks in the US and Europe. On top of it, fears of recession are keeping global policy makers on their toes. The turmoil in the global economy has fuelled the safe haven demand for gold.

"Historical trends suggest that gold prices tend to rise when the Federal Reserve comes to the end of its interest rate hiking cycle. The Federal Reserve has hiked interest rates from virtually 0 to 5% in just one year which has created economic stresses in many parts of the US and the world," Viral Shah, Head of Brokerage 360 ONE, which was earlier known as IIFL Wealth, told TNIE.

"As a result, banks like SVB and First Republican Bank have become casualties of this hiking cycle, and the bond market in the US believes that the Fed will have to pause and start cutting rates sometime this year or next. This has led to an uptick in gold prices as investors look for a safe haven for their money," Shah added.


₹61,490
PER 10 GRAM: NEW ALL-TIME HIGH OF GOLD PRICES HIT LAST WEEK
₹64000 – ₹65000 per 10 gm: Price of gold expected to reach during 2023
GOLD RUSH CONTINUES
1,136
tonnes: Total gold bought by central banks in 2022
11%
RISE IN THE PRICES OF GOLD IN 2023

There is also strong demand from central banks as they bought a record high amount of 1,136 tonnes of gold in 2022, and are expected to continue their buying spree in 2023 as well.

"As Federal Reserves' battle against inflation is not over yet, interest rates continue to rise in the US. This steep rise in rates may lead to a slowdown or may be a recession. The probability of instability in the dollar is running high and hence falling back on the ultimate reserve currency is driving gold prices higher," Siddarth Bhamre - EVP, Head of Research, Religare Broking told this newspaper.

New ways to invest in gold

Apart from buying physical gold, investors should also explore new options such as gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) which offer some advantages compared to physical gold. "If the purpose of buying jewellery or gold is not its usability then gold ETFs or SGBs are better options for investors of gold. If the objective is to benefit out of the gold price movement, then ETFs are a better choice and if the objective is to buy gold in the distant future, the SGBs will shine better than actual gold," said Bhamre.

Regarding SGBs, experts suggest that investors should buy them during the issuance and should hold them until maturity to get their maximum advantage. These bonds give some additional advantages to investors such as if investors purchase them during issuance, they get 5% discount and they also get paid 2.5% per annum interest.

"Sovereign Gold Bonds would be a more attractive alternative for fresh investments. It pays an interest rate of 2.5% per annum (paid half yearly) and does not attract capital gains tax if redeemed on maturity after eight years," Naveen Mathur, Director - Commodities and Currencies, Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers said.

"Hence retail investors considering taxation benefits may consider Sovereign Bonds in place of gold ETFs. Meanwhile, both options are more favourable as compared to investment in physical gold in terms of lower capital investment and taxation purpose," he added.

Where is gold headed?

All experts and reports indicate that there is still much steam left in the rally of gold prices. Until clarity emerges about the health of the global economy, the yellow metal is expected to continue its upward journey.

"Slowdown in global growth led by higher global interest rates could be the most supportive factor for gold as it enjoys a safe haven appeal in times of global uncertainties which makes it highly susceptible to outperform all asset classes. Overall Central bank buying, recessionary fears and dollar weakness are the major factors that could support gold buying in 2023," said Mathur.

"On MCX Gold is expected to average in the range of ₹59,000 – 60,000 per 10 gram over in 2023 and above ₹51,058 per 10 gram average on MCX seen in 2022, providing 16 -20% returns. On the higher side, we might see levels of ₹64500 – 65000 / 10 gm in 2023 in MCX futures contract," Mathur added.

Experts say that there might be some corrections in the prices of gold in the near term which should be used as a buying opportunity to invest in the precious metal.

"The prospect of a Fed pause, coupled with worsening economic conditions, could bode well for gold this year. By the year end 2023, gold should march ahead to form new highs crossing $2100 in COMEX or in rupee terms ₹63,500," said NS Ramaswamy, Head of Commodities, Ventura Securities.

MONEY MATTERS

WHY INVEST IN INDIA'S CONSUMER SECTOR

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

APPLE, the world's most valuable company, recently opened two retail stores in India. When the biggest company by revenue and market value takes a call like that, you must sit up and take note. There is a lot of thinking and strategizing that goes behind that action. Apple went to China in 2008. In those days, China was a $4.5 trillion economy in terms of GDP.

Cut to 2023, the entry into India is at a time when it is closer to the $ 4 trillion GDP mark. Over the past 15 years, Apple has opened 48 stores in China. In an interview recently, Apple CEO Tim Cook talked up the Indian market and expected Apple to make inroads. He said that the Indian market was at a "tipping point" since many people were coming into the middle class.

Meanwhile, Pret-A-Manger, a company that makes fresh sandwiches and coffee in the UK, opened its first store in India. There are many quick-service restaurant companies that have opened. However, Pret-A-Manger has no 'Use by' date for the food products in the store. Everything from sandwiches to other bakery items is freshly made and disposed of at the end of the day. Achieving the supply chain is a challenge. The opening of the first store in India shows the confidence of the company to manage and sell to the rising Indian consuming class.

Similarly, Reliance Industries group, the largest conglomerate in the country, is a critical driver in the retail space bringing global brands to India. The group has opened a world-class art and convention centre that brings to India Broadway theatre for the first time. These are expensive entertainment ideas. However, the opening up of such facilities means businesses think affordability in India is now higher than before.

There are opportunities for new consumer products and categories. Some consumers wish to buy those products, and some suppliers are willing to meet the standards required to service customers.

You can learn more about the consumer sector by reading the conference call transcript of consumer goods companies.

Hindustan Unilever, the largest consumer company, reported quarterly performance despite weak rural demand and high commodity prices. In the latest earnings call conference, Sanjiv Mehta, CEO of Hindustan Unilever, said the company grew the topline by 16%, led by 5% volume growth across product categories. That was despite the consumer goods sector market declining in volume overall. The largest consumer company in India expects to sustain growth in the medium to long term. Low-income people are affected the most in an inflationary environment as consumer goods spending makes up for the largest share of the total monthly expenditure.

Long-term investment in consumer sector

The opportunity in India's consumer sector is just opening. It is only now that companies are relying on digital e-commerce. As more people use smartphones to buy everyday groceries or gadgets, companies selling such goods are likely to grow their business consistently

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Despite commodity prices exceeding the ten-year averages, the company has maintained margins in key product categories and retains pricing power. The HUL story tells us about the resilience of the Indian consumer market for household goods.

How to benefit

Investing in the consumer sector is for the long-term. When you put your money in these companies, it would take a long time for you to enjoy the fruits. Usually, consumer companies trade at a much higher valuation than the average market. They are considered defensive stocks as they are profit-making businesses with a strong balance sheet and generate steady cashflows. They also pay high dividends. Hence, these stocks are favourites of all types of investors. Large institutional investors and high net worth investors have these stocks as a part of their core portfolio.

The opportunity in India's consumer sector is just opening. It is only now that companies are relying on digital e-commerce. As more people use smartphones to buy everyday groceries or gadgets, companies selling such goods are likely to grow their business consistently.

If you are new to the world of investing, you can start by buying mutual funds that have a higher allocation to the consumer sector. There are sector specific funds too. Index funds are a better option as they track the performance of a sectoral index and are cost efficient.

MONEY-WISE

FEATURES OF GREAT INVESTORS

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

ALL big investment writers – Benjamin Graham, Warren Buffett, Charlie Munger, Jason Zweig and Morgan Housel – have wondered what are the characteristics of good (great) investors. Here are my views on what I think. My observation is based on all the readings and experience of investing and meeting many investors...

- **Curiosity to learn about many things**- from Anthropology to Zoology. No one knows what you will learn from which subject. History, Economics, Accounting, Philosophy, Psychology, Biographies of businessmen and wealth managers – are obvious. Not so obvious could be books on health, cooking, gardening, other sports etc. Curious – and therefore always reading is an important characteristic.
- **Scepticism** – being sceptical about everything around you is a boring, tiring but a very important characteristic that I have noticed with big investors.
- **Broad picture** –yes, but micro picture seeing how the company is reacting to the macro is just as important.
- **Knowledge of Accounting** – even though many of them can't do a full detailed analysis, they have a good handle on the numbers of most companies.
- **Knowing the difference in their trading and investing portfolios** – this distinguishes the best investors from the normal run of the mill investors.
- **Independence** – most of them understand the risk of listening to analysts who have met the promoter. One investor whom I know starts by asking the analyst - 'when was the last time you met the promoters.' He clearly does not want the bias to hit his portfolio.
- **Humility** – almost all the investors whom I know are humble, understand their limitations. So sometimes when the share in which they invest goes up 10% in say 3 days, they are happy to sell it off knowing that they will be able to get it cheaper in most cases.
- **Discipline** – No big investor can afford to be without discipline. It is the most important feature – when they make norms they stick to it, come what may. I know some seriously rich investors investing big amounts of money in March and April 2020 because their investment portfolio statement said they should do.
- **Many of them have a very well written Investment Philosophy Statement** – they have goals and they know exactly what they want. I could have called this Goal Based Investing.
- **Most of them have the next 20 years expenses** – in debt instruments. Thus, even if they started at say 70% in debt, they move up to say 90%, but may remain there. This is because they are comfortable with a booming market and can sit on capital gains for really long periods of time.
- **Ability to sit tight over long periods of time** – without worrying about short term fluctuations.
- **Patience** – and reasonable expectations! They get good returns, but they have very little expectations from their portfolios. This helps them remain calm during big draw downs.

Coal India Q4 profit down 18% y-o-y to ₹5,528 crore

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

COAL India has reported a 17.7% decline in its Q4 net profit at ₹5,527.62 crore compared with ₹6,715 crore in the same quarter last year primarily due to increased provision towards the wages. "PAT would have been the highest ever profit in any quarter had the provision not been made," the company said.

However, for the full fiscal, the company posted a 62% jump in its net profit at ₹28,125 crore compared with ₹ 17,378 crore in FY22.

The company said this was despite provisioning ₹8,153 crore in the accounts in 2022-23 towards wage revision of CIL's non-executive manpower.

CIL lifted its profit into higher orbit despite the company capping its coal prices for over the past five years amidst rising input costs, especially diesel and explosives and increased wage cost due to provisioning in the accounts.

The company's board met on 7 May and recommended the payment of a final dividend of ₹4 per share. Earlier in two tranches, a total dividend of ₹20.25 per share was already paid out. Coal India's net sales were highest ever for Q4 as well as for FY23. Net sales at ₹35,161 crore in Q4 of FY23 were up by 17% compared with ₹29,985 crore of fourth quarter FY22. For the full year of 2022-23, CIL's net sales stood at ₹1,27,627 crore. This is a jump of 27% compared with ₹1,00,563 crore of preceding fiscal. Wages of non-executive workers, which account for 94% of Coal India's workforce, are revised every five years. The hike is due from July 2021. In 2017, CIL signed a wage agreement with worker unions proposing a 20% hike in salaries for five years. Coal India has a total workforce of 2.59 lakh.

India-Canada FTA to conclude earlier than with UK: Govt official

MONIKA YADAV @New Delhi

THE free trade agreement (FTA) between India and Canada will fructify sooner than that with the UK, a top government official told TNIE.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal on Sunday reached Canada to sign an interim agreement.

"Very frequent negotiations are happening with Canada over trade deals. Commerce Minister Goyal has reached Canada and he will likely sign an Interim Agreement or Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA) that could bring early commercial gains to both the countries," the official said.

The interim agreement will include high level commitments in goods, services, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, and dispute settlement, and may also cover any other areas mutually agreed upon, said the official.

In addition, trade talks with the UK, which were launched last year in July, have slowed down after the new government took over there.

"Under the regime of Boris Johnson, the trade talks were at full swing. But after the Diwali deadline couldn't be met, things seem to have slowed down. However, the negotiations will gain momentum going forward," the official added.

He further said that the next round of meeting between India and the UK for the trade deal will take place in the May-end or the beginning of June.

"There are some sticky issues to be addressed for the conclusion of the UK-India FTA. The UK is demanding duty concessions on Scotch whisky, electronic items and automobiles. Meanwhile, the corporate sector wants progress on visa and mobility issues," added the official.

In the last couple of years, India has signed FTAs with Mauritius and the UAE and an interim pact with Australia. Besides Canada and the UK, India is also in talks with the European Union and Israel for the trade deal.

The total merchandise trade with Canada in FY23 was around $8 billion, which is a paltry 0.65% of India's total trade during the year.

India's major exports to Canada are pharmaceuticals, textiles, metal and steel. India largely imports petroleum products from Canada.

Govt defers 7-day time limit for e-invoice reporting

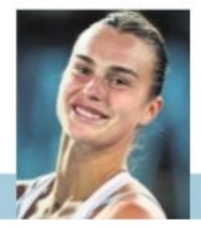
ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

THE government has deferred by three months the imposition of a 7-day time limit for reporting old e-invoices on the e-invoice portals for GST taxpayers with aggregate turnover ₹100 crore or more.

The new rule was supposed to be implemented by 1 May 2023. However, given the operational difficulties faced by the taxpayers, the GST authorities have decided to defer it.

e-invoice is a system in which business-to-business (B2B) invoices are electronically authenticated by GST Network, the entity that provided the IT backbone for administration of GST. Under the e-invoicing system, an identification number is issued against every invoice by the Invoice Registration Portal (IRP) to be managed by the GST Network (GSTN). Experts say that the extension of the deadline was expected as many businesses have not yet integrated their Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) with real-time reporting into the Invoice Registration Portal (IRP). "The earlier requirement had put an additional burden on such businesses to upload their invoices in the IRP portal, leading to compliance challenges and operational difficulties. The extension of the time limit to report invoices to the IRP will provide these businesses with the necessary time to streamline their reporting processes, ensuring effective implementation going forward," says Ankur Gupta-Practice Leader Indirect tax at SW India. The government wanted to impose the 7-day reporting limit to ensure timely compliance. The 7-day restriction will apply to all documents for which IRN is generated. Once issued, the credit / debit note will also have to be reported within 7 days of issue.

Sabalenka earns Swiatek revenge to win Madrid Open



World No 2 Aryna Sabalenka played a superb attacking game to beat top ranked Iga Swiatek 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 and win the Madrid Open for the second time on Saturday. The big-hitting Belarusian gained revenge for defeat by her Polish rival in the Stuttgart final a fortnight ago with a thrilling triumph to end Swiatek's nine-match winning streak ahead of her French Open defence.

HONEST PRAGMATIST

Sandeep has been one of the go-to pacers for Rajasthan Royals. In a candid chat with **Gomesh S**, the 29-year-old opens up about being himself, fatherhood and more

JUST after the 2018 IPL final where Chennai Super Kings outplayed Sunrisers Hyderabad to win their third title, several memes — as is the case with every game — on the match were trending on social media. One among them was on Sandeep Sharma, who had a day to forget — 1/52 in four overs. The meme was from the Bollywood movie Gangs of Wasseypur portraying three armed men riding a bike on their way to beat up someone at their house. The caption on the meme read — SRH fans be like: Sandeep Sharma ke Ghar Chalo Jaldi (Let's go to Sandeep Sharma's house quickly).

It would be expected that when someone sees such a meme with their name on it, they'd be upset and perhaps even worried for safety. Sandeep still remembers it vividly, not because of how bad it made him feel, but for how much he enjoyed it. He says that it is the funniest meme about him. "I just laugh. Even my wife, she shows me some memes about me, and we laugh," says the Rajasthan Royals pacer with a chuckle.

"Actually, to be very honest, I'm so fascinated about those people whose minds are so fast, they make these memes within five minutes after this match gets over and you take your phone, open social media within 10-15 minutes, all these memes will be circulating. It is incredible. Even if I have not done well, and I have been in that position, I have seen all these memes. And to be very honest, I just laugh."

That sentiment almost perfectly sums up Sandeep as an individual. The 29-year-old's brutal honesty comes as a breath of fresh air. He doesn't mince words, can take a joke, has the ability to laugh at himself, and can also be empathetic towards others. For example, as much as he enjoys the memes about himself, Sandeep is not a fan of the memes made on Ashok Dinda for his economy in the IPL, calling bowlers who go for runs as 'Dinda Academy'. He reiterates how numbers reflect both Dinda and Dwayne Bravo have similar economy in the IPL, but it the former who is made fun of.

With Sandeep, what you see is what you get. He did not hide his disappointment after not getting picked in the 2023 IPL auction last December, nor has he hesitated to stand for the causes he believes in — both on and off the field. "The thing is everyone is like that only but people pretend to be different when they talk to other people or when they are in public. I try to be myself or whenever I'm talking, I try to be honest about what I'm thinking or what my thought process is. It is always good to speak such things and if you talk your honest things, whatever is going through your mind, the listener also likes it. It is like that with me."

Meanwhile, he is also a pragmatist. Although he felt bad about not being signed by any team for a couple of days, having been a part of the league for so long, Sandeep knew there was always a chance of him playing in this IPL. "Every year, fast bowlers get injured, right? And this profession is like that, injuries are more. So, I was just hoping if somebody gets injured and if I get that opportunity, I should be ready. I was practising, I was working hard on my fitness. I was doing everything that I could do," he says. Which is why, when RR skipper Sanju Samson called him around 20 days before the season — they were looking to replace the injured Prasidh Krishna — Sandeep was ready.

And come April 12, he had to step up for Rajasthan. The 29-year-old was bowling the final over to defend 21 runs against MS Dhoni at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Sandeep doesn't hide the fact that he was under pressure. He admits that he would be lying if he said otherwise. However, he stuck to his strengths and held his nerves to deliver a crucial win for Rajasthan in front of a packed Chennai crowd.

After that match against Chennai, a video of his daughter Sohani cheering for Sandeep in front of the television went viral. So much has changed in Sandeep's life in the last 12 months after her arrival. He is relishing fatherhood and is happy that the 10-month-old is finally starting to recognise him on video calls. "It's a new experience for me and I'm still learning so many things about fatherhood. Yeah, it (life) has changed a lot. I am also wondering how parenthood changes your thought process naturally. I feel she's very lucky to me. I changed my jersey number after 10 years of IPL. This year I'm playing with her birthday number (20). In my team, there are few players who are fathers to older children like R Ashwin, Jos Buttler, etc. I speak to them. They say everyone goes through it. So, it's like you are from India or England or Australia or anywhere in the world, I feel emotions are the same towards your kids or any human being."

On the field, Sandeep is still hungry. He has been toiling in domestic cricket season after season. He has been one of the star performers in the IPL for over a decade now, and he is just 29. He is unapologetic of the fact that he started playing in the league when he was only 18 while making it clear that he is not someone who keeps living in past glories or crib about it. He wants to stay in the present and do well for the RR's cause in the IPL. And he has done that so far. Such has been his performance that he has been RR's go-to pacer, along with Trent Boult, this season, both with the new ball as well as in the death.

Among other things, what has helped him succeed is the ability to take success and failure in the same light. Sandeep doesn't go overboard with his celebrations after a good day nor does he get hung over after a bad day. He has played enough cricket to understand the fickle nature of the T20 format and how important it is to forget the previous day's performance the next morning. In fact, he sets very realistic, short-term goals and works towards them.

"I just want that within the next couple of games we qualify for the playoffs. And, from thereon, hopefully win the trophy. This is what my goal is for the next 20 days. If I do well, and we as a group do well, and win a few games, we will be there in the playoffs. You never know, a couple of good performances and you win the tournament. Once you win the tournament and you have done well, all the doors open, right? So, this is how it goes. This is what I'm thinking at the moment," says a resilient Sandeep.

Even if things go South and he does have a bad day, as he did on Sunday bowling a no ball on the final delivery, with memes being made on him, Sandeep will likely be laughing at them before moving on to focus on what he has to work for the next game.

Samad six seals last-ball thriller

JAIPUR: Jos Buttler and Sanju Samson struck commanding fifties as Rajasthan Royals piled up 214/2 against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Sunday. In reply, Hyderabad chased down the target in the final ball of the match to register a four-wicket win and stay alive. Abdul Samad hit a six off the last ball from Sandeep Sharma to take SRH home. **Brief scores:** Rajasthan Royals 214/2 in 20 ovs (Buttler 95, Samson 66 n.o; Kumar 1/44) **bt** Sunrisers Hyderabad 217/6 in 20 ovs (Abhishek 55, Tripathi 47; Chahal 4/29).

It is always good to speak such things and if you talk your honest things, whatever is going through your mind, the listener also likes it. — Sandeep Sharma

Openers, Mohit inspire GT victory

AGENCIES @ Ahmedabad

Gujarat Titans defeated Lucknow Super Giants by 56 runs in their Indian Premier League match here on Sunday. Sent in to bat, GT posted an imposing 227/2. The hosts then stopped LSG at 171 for seven in the stipulated 20 overs. For LSG, Quinton de Kock was the top-scorer with a 41-ball 70, while Kyle Mayers made 48 off 32 deliveries. Mohit Sharma finished with excellent figures of 4/29 in four overs for GT. Earlier, GT got off to a blistering start with both Wriddhiman Saha (81 off 43 balls) and Shubman Gill (94 not out off 51) going after the bowling from the word go, helping the team amass 78 runs in the powerplay.

Brief scores: Gujarat Titans 227 for 2 in 20 ovs (Saha 81, Gill 94 n.o) bt Lucknow Super Giants 171/7 in 20 ovs (De Kock 70, Mayers 48; Mohit 4/29).

KNIGHTS FACE KINGS TEST

PUNJAB KINGS TAKE ON KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS IN A WHAT IS A MUST-WIN GAME FOR THE LATTER. A LOOK...

In need of consistency

While Kolkata managed to get ahead of Sunrisers Hyderabad in their previous game, it did not come without hiccups. For the better part of the game, they were struggling and kept making errors on the field. In yet another must-win game, they would not want to repeat the same.

Livingstone vs KKR spinners

Liam Livingstone has found some form, but he will be challenged by the trio of spinners from Kolkata. Through this season, he has rotated against the spinners and taken on the pacers. His match-up against Varun Chakravarthy and Suyash Sharma is one to watch.

Russell to come to party?

Andre Russell showed what he can do with the ball in Hyderabad, but KKR will need him to do the same against Punjab, and this time with the bat. They need the West Indian to come to the party to dominate the remaining games.

Kolkata Knight Riders vs Punjab Kings, 7.30 PM, Kolkata — Live on Star Sports and Jio Cinema

Farmer leaders Rakesh Tikait, Mehar Singh and Baldev Singh Sirsa along with wrestlers Sakshi Malik (L) & Vinesh Phogat in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Advice panel wants resolution by May 21

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

THE 31-member committee that is advising the protesting wrestlers on Sunday said if Wrestling Federation of India chief, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, is not arrested by May 21, it will take a "significant decision", even as Vinesh Phogat insisted that their protest has not been hijacked by farmers.

Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) spokesperson Rakesh Tikait, Khap Maham 24 chief Mehar Singh and Sankyut Kisna Morcha's (non-political) Baldev Singh Sirsa joined the wrestlers on the dias and addressed the media.

"Many leaders from Khap panchayat and SKM attended the meeting today (Sunday). We decided that members from every khap will come to the protest site every day. They will stay here during the day and return by the evening," Tikait said before a huge gathering. "The wrestlers' committee will take care of the protest and we will support the wrestlers from outside. We have scheduled a meeting for May 21. If the government does not offer a resolution, we will devise our next strategy," he added.

There has been a heavy deployment of Rapid Action Force (RAF) at the protest site with many khap leaders and farmers joining the aggrieved wrestlers. The turbaned farmers, clad in dhoti-kurtas, and numbering in hundreds were seen at the protest site on Sunday as a 'Mahapanchayat' discussed the next move on behalf of the wrestlers.

Vinesh also hinted that the protest may become bigger if their demands are not met. "We can take a big call if a resolution does not come by May 21. No one has hijacked our protest, it's just that people have joined us in our fight against injustice. These people respect us and care for our dignity," she said.

WEIGHTLIFTING

Jeremy bags silver but fails to finish event

AGENCIES @ Jinju (Korea)

INDIAN weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga won a silver in snatch but could not register an overall total as he failed to lift the weight in any of his three clean and jerk attempts in a disappointing show at the Asian Championships here on Sunday.

Competing in his first tournament since winning the gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, Jeremy was the only one in the 12-lifter field who did not finish (DNF) his event.

The 20-year-old, however, won a silver medal in the snatch event with a personal best-equalling lift of 141kg in the non-Olympic 67kg weight class. Jeremy failed to lift 165kg in his first two clean and jerk attempts. He then increased the weight to 168kg, which would have been 2kg more than his personal best and also a national record, but the reigning Youth Olympic champion faltered again.

China's He Yueji 320kg (147kg+173kg) finished with the gold, while local favourite Lee Sangyeon 314kg (139kg+175kg) and Uzbek lifter Ergashev Adkhamjon 312kg (138kg+174kg) took home the silver and bronze medals respectively.

EXPRESS READ

Boxer Deepak stuns Olympic medallist

AGENCIES @ Tashkent

INDIAN pugilist Deepak Bhoria (51kg) stunned Tokyo Olympic bronze medallist and 2021 world champion Saken Bibossinov on Sunday to reach the pre-quarterfinals at the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships, while Hussamuddin (57kg) also registered a victory to advance to the quarterfinals.

Deepak started the bout slowly and took some time to get into the rhythm of the game but Bibossinov used it to his advantage and landed some punches. The Indian boxer ended the first round strongly and hit his opponent with a flurry of punches but lost by 2-3.

After the second round, Deepak was trailing before mounting a comeback in the final round. He picked up the pace and moved around swiftly throughout the bout, while hitting his opponent with some hard blows. Deepak evaded the Kazakh boxer's punches consistently and impressed the judges to win by 5-2 after the decision went to bout review.

Deepak will face Zhang Jiamao of China in his next bout and will look to register another big win in the tournament.

Deepak Bhoria (c) upset Tokyo Olympic medallist Saken Bibossinov

"My target was to play with patience since the start of the bout and gather as many points as I can. The first two rounds were tough but I was focussed on not losing my patience and waiting for the right moment to attack. Coaches had told me to lure my opponent with the right punch before using my left hook to good effect. It worked as I connected a lot of left hooks to get points," Deepak said after the victory.

Hussamuddin beat Russia's Savvin Eduard 5-0 in the pre-quarters.

Later, Sumit (75kg) and Narender Berwal (+92kg) lost their respective bouts to crash out of the event.

Juve beat Atalanta to go second in Serie A

NAPLES: Juventus moved up to second in Serie A on Sunday after a 2-0 win at fellow Champions League chasers Atalanta, whose fans racially abused Juve goalscorer Dusan Vlahovic. Engand youth international Iling-Junior netted 55 minutes into his first start in Italy's top flight before Vlahovic finished the job deep in stoppage time. He then goaded a section of the home supporters after being targetted with racist chants, earning himself a booking for his troubles. Juve are two points ahead of Lazio who were beaten at AC Milan on Saturday.

Srikanth, Chaliha make Asian Games cut

NEW DELHI: Kidambi Srikanth and Ashmita Chaliha topped the men's and women's singles trials, respectively, for the Asian Games at the Jwala Gutta Badminton Academy in Hyderabad to join PV Sindhu and HS Prannoy for the individual competitions as the selectors announced a 19-member squad. According to the selection trials format, three men's and women's singles spots along with one each in men's and women's doubles and two in mixed doubles were up for grabs from the trials.

Sethu keep up perfect run, Odisha crush Lord's FA

AHMEDABAD: Sethu Madurai FC maintained their perfect record in the Indian Women's League, sailing past Central Reserve Police Force Football Club 5-0 in a Group B clash at the Shahibaug Police Stadium here on Sunday. The win consolidates Sethu's position at the top of the group. The club have conceded mere two goals in the season so far. Meanwhile, Odisha FC put up a commanding performance (5-0 win) against debutant Lords FA Kochi.

Arsenal pass Newcastle test, keep pressure on City

AFP @ Newcastle

ARSENAL kept the Premier League title race alive as Martin Odegaard's strike and Fabian Schar's own goal beat Newcastle 2-0 on Sunday to close to within one point of leaders Manchester City.

City have a game in hand on top of their slender lead, but the Gunners are refusing to give up the fight in their hunt for a first league title in 19 years. Newcastle's second home defeat of the season slows the Magpies' charge towards Champions League football next season as their lead over fifth-placed Liverpool remains three points.

Arsenal held an eight-point lead just a month ago but had won just one of their last five league games to let the destiny of the title slip out of their hands. Mikel Arteta's men, though, showcased their improvement over the last 12 months since defeat at St. James' Park last season cost them a place in the top four.

ATHLETICS

Record players: Chithravel, Sable & Parul raise national bar

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

TRIPLE jumper Praveen Chithravel shattered the national record and breached the 2023 World Athletics Championships qualifying standard in Cuba while Avinash Sable and Parul Chaudhary set men's and women's 5000m national marks in a track event in USA.

Chithravel jumped 17.37m to finish on top at the V Prueba de Confrontacion 2023 competition on Saturday in Havana, Cuba, a World Athletics category F event, to better the earlier national record of 17.30m set by Renjith Maheswary in 2016.

The 21-year-old Chithravel also breached the 2023 Budapest World Athletics Championships qualifying standard of 17.20m. His earlier personal best was 17.18m which he had achieved while winning gold during the National Inter-State Athletics Championships in Chennai last year.

His 17.37m effort also put him in the second place in the season's top list for non wind assisted jumps. Chithravel is currently training in Cuba under coach Yoandri Betanzos, who is the native of that country.

Junior World Championships medallist T Selva Prabhu, who is also training along with Chithravel, broke the U-20 national record with an effort of 16.58m for a fourth-place finish in the same event. Sable and Chaudhary, both 28, bettered the old men's and women's 5000m national records at the Sound Running Track Festival, a World Athletics Continental Tour silver level event, in Los Angeles in USA on Saturday.

Sable bettered his own earlier national record of 13:25:65 by clocking 13:19.30 as he finished 12th in the race, while Chaudhary broke the earlier national mark of 15:15.89 which had remained for 13 years in the name of Preeja Sreedharan by clocking 15:10:35 for a ninth-place finish.

CUET MEETING PURPOSE: UGC CHIEF

Ahead of the second largest national exam, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, M Jagadesh Kumar, speaks about expectations and improvements one can look forward to

HARSHA TALLAPRAGADA

THE Common University Entrance Test (CUET) was introduced in 2022 and now it's almost time for the second edition of CUET UG. This exam aims to provide a common platform and equal opportunity to candidates across the country, especially those from remote areas. A better way to describe CUET would be 'One Nation One Exam' to get into universities for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. With multiple goals in mind, how does Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar, the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), evaluate the performance of the exam in terms of meeting its target? "CUET is meeting the purpose for which it was introduced," he says confidently. After all, the number of participating universities and the number of students who have registered for the exam this year, both have seen an upswing.

This time around, the examination experience will differ in numerous ways, including reduced number of examination days, conducting the exam in three daily shifts, having backup computers ready to address any technical glitches and several other changes. The UGC Chairman delved into all this and more, including topics like the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in addition to foreign universities setting up campuses in India. Here are key excerpts from an insightful conversation:

Q The fact that CUET registrations have gone up by 41% is surely a testament to its success. Would you say UGC's goal of introducing the entrance exam has been met?

Why are so many higher education institutions testing so many students for admission in different disciplines? Subjecting the students to multiple admission tests drains them financially and affects them psychologically. NEP 2020 too advocates for reducing the burden of admission tests on students. The fact is that when compared to CUET's debut year, in 2023, the number of participating universities has increased and the number of students who will sit for CUET has also significantly gone up. This indicates that CUET is surely meeting the purpose for which it was introduced.

Q Last year, technical glitches did leave a few students worried. Though NTA made up for it. Surely, the second edition will ensure that students have a much smoother experience. Tell us how else are you gearing up to conduct it.

Students should focus on attempting CUET without worrying about glitches. This time we have taken several measures to make the experience of students at test centres smooth.

First, the number of days for conducting CUET is reduced to 12, unlike last year when it was spread over nearly six weeks. Reducing the number of days necessitated keeping three sessions on each day. Secondly, we have started identifying the test centres across the country well in advance and checking the infrastructure for conducting the test. We are arranging for extra capacity at each centre so that a student can shift to another computer if there are glitches.

Q Many students who couldn't get into their dream colleges with their Class XII Board results are now able to secure a seat in it, thanks to CUET. What other positive feedback are students providing regarding the examination?

worry not

The fact students need not score Board percentages of 98% to 100% to gain admission into their dream institutions is itself a great relief to them. Students from rural backgrounds and socially and economically disadvantaged groups may not always get high percentages in their Board exams but now they have an opportunity to do well in CUET. It is an added advantage to such students that CUET is conducted in 13 Indian languages, which helps them to attempt the exam without the fear of language barriers.

Although we have not collected the data, informal inputs from vice-chancellors indicate that campus diversity is rising, which is encouraging.

Q Any advice for the students who are preparing for the exam?

Focus on understanding concepts and learn to apply these concepts to solve problems. This will help you do well in the Board exams too. Since only the Class XII syllabus is used in CUET and is still fresh in your mind, revise it adequately. Make notes and a study plan to use your time productively. Reach the test centre well before the starting time of the test. Proper rest and keeping yourself fit will help in keeping your mind serene.

In the coming years, many more universities will use CUET for admissions to UG programmes

— Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar, Chairman, University Grants Commission

Q With the release of rules for foreign universities to open campuses in India scheduled for this month, surely the UGC is taking up the task with gusto. Could you give us a sneak peek into what we can expect?

There is undoubtedly a lot of excitement about the UGC's regulations on foreign university campuses in India. Delegations from around the globe — USA, Canada, Europe, UK, Australia and New Zealand — are meeting us and enquiring about the regulations.

In these meetings, we also clarify their doubts. They appreciate the reforms we are bringing to higher education in India and express a desire to partner with us. We are giving the final touches to the regulations and the portal for interested foreign universities to apply is also getting ready. We are working on announcing the final regulations by the end of May, if all goes well.

Q The announcement of the CUET, JEE and NEET merger sent the academic world into a tizzy, though all fears were assuaged. What are the advantages of such a merger?

Major entrance test mergers must be performed at some point, as suggested in NEP 2020. Such a merger is, of course, challenging and needs to be done with careful planning. At least, the introduction of CUET has reduced the number of tests that students have to take otherwise.

In the coming years, many more universities will use CUET for admissions to UG programmes. The current CUET, JEE and NEET models will continue until we determine the details of their merger. Students need not worry about it for now.

Q One of the most impressive aspects of the National Credit Framework (NCRF) is the provision it makes for gifted children. You have also written to universities to allow students to write exams in local languages. Overall, there is a bid to keep inclusivity in mind with every initiative. How does UGC ensure that inclusivity is part and parcel of every initiative? What ideals does UGC hold close to its heart?

UGC is constantly working to protect and promote the interests of students. We ensure that all universities will have SC-ST cells to protect the interests of students coming from SC and ST categories. It is mandatory to have Internal Complaints Committee to provide a safe working environment for the students.

Recently, UGC has also made it compulsory to form student grievance redressal committees and appoint an ombudsperson to take care of the grievances of the students.

When students enter a university, they are suddenly exposed to a new environment and undergo difficulties in adjusting to new situations. We must help them perform well in their pursuits without them being subjected to stress and other pressures. For example, we helped thousands of students get their fees refunded to the tune of Rs 30 crore.

UGC also has an online portal, e-Samadhan Online Grievance Registering and Monitoring System. It is a digital platform for students to identify and apply for grievances/feedback/queries. This platform ensures a time-bound mechanism for the redressal of grievances.

Q The push for Indian Knowledge System (IKS) ensures that we stay rooted in our culture and tradition. In the future, in what other ways is the commission planning to make higher education more and more India-centric?

Promoting IKS and using Indian languages in our educational institutions is a priority for UGC. Studying and knowing about IKS will give our students, not only a more comprehensive view of our country as a knowledge-based society, but an understanding of how the IKS can be connected with contemporary knowledge to find new perspectives on building sustainable human communities. Nearly 45% of the universities and 60% of colleges are in rural areas. Students in these institutions often need help understanding their English textbooks and expressing their ideas clearly. To address this issue, UGC has formed an apex committee working with universities to bring textbooks in different Indian languages required in all disciplines. Students can use these Indian language textbooks when they find it difficult to understand English textbooks.

We have also requested universities to let students write the examinations in local languages even if they are studying in English. This will help them write the answers more confidently and enhance their success rates.

look back

The year that was

Let's take a look at the debut edition of the examination, CUET 2022, through numbers

Conducted over six phases and span of several months, lakhs appeared for the exam

PHASE 1
Students: 2.49 lakh
Days: July 15, 16, 19 & 20

PHASE 2
Students: 1.91 lakh
Days: August 4, 5 and 6

PHASE 3
Students: 1.91 lakh
Days: August 7, 8 and 10

PHASE 4
Students: 3.72 lakh
Days: August 17, 18 & 20

PHASE 5
Students: 2.01 lakh
Days: August 21, 22 & 23

PHASE 6
Students: 2.86 lakh
Days: August 24, 25, 26 & 30

14,90,293 Registrations
9,68,201 Attempted
490 Centres per shift
505 NUMBER OF OBSERVERS/DEPUTY OBSERVERS PER SHIFT
2 National coordinators
18 Regional coordinators
250 City coordinators
6 Phases the exam was conducted in
54,555 Unique combination candidates applied for
90 Universities candidates applied for
2,219 Number of question papers
50,476 Number of questions

The exam was conducted in 13 languages

CANDIDATES HAD TO ATTEMPT
40 OUT OF 50 QUESTIONS
60 OUT OF 75 QUESTIONS *IN GENERAL TEST*
259 Number of cities in India where the exam was conducted

PEOPLE INVOLVED IN PREPARING QUESTION PAPERS
1240 Subject experts
680 Translators
10 Number of international cities where exam was conducted

FEMALE	MALE	3RD GENDER
Registered: 6,60,311	Registered: 8,29,965	Registered: 17
Appeared: 4,29,228	Attempted: 5,38,965	Appeared: 8

INDIA'S TOP VARSITIES ADMITTING STUDENTS BASED ON CUET SCORES

In 2022, the count was 44 central and 22 state universities. This year, the number has gone up. Here are country's top universities to which you can apply via CUET

CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, DELHI — 2 NIRF Ranking

top stars

JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, DELHI — 3 NIRF Ranking

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY, UP — 6 NIRF Ranking

UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD, TELANGANA — 10 NIRF Ranking

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, UP — 11 NIRF Ranking

DELHI UNIVERSITY — 13 NIRF Ranking

BR AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY, DELHI — 55 NIRF Ranking

STATE UNIVERSITIES

Delhi Technological University — NIRF RANKING: 38
University of Kashmir — NIRF RANKING: 53
University of Jammu — NIRF RANKING: 56
Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi — NIRF RANKING: 77
Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Madhya Pradesh — NIRF RANKING: 111
Netaji Subhas University of Technology, Delhi — NIRF RANKING: 133
Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Jammu — NIRF RANKING: 140

DEEMED UNIVERSITIES

Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation, Andhra Pradesh — NIRF RANKING: 27
Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education, Tamil Nadu — NIRF RANKING: 35
Jamia Hamdard, Delhi — NIRF RANKING: 45
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Maharashtra — NIRF RANKING: 60
Graphic Era University, Uttarakhand — NIRF RANKING: 74
Jain University, Karnataka — NIRF RANKING: 79
Avinashilingam University, Tamil Nadu — NIRF RANKING: 84

PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Amity University, UP — NIRF RANKING: 22
Lovely Professional University, Punjab — NIRF RANKING: 47
SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Maharashtra — NIRF RANKING: 51
Shoolini University, HP — NIRF RANKING: 96
Amity University, Haryana — NIRF RANKING: 101
Amity University, Jaipur — NIRF RANKING: 102
Chitkara University, Punjab — NIRF RANKING: 109

Last year's CUET candidates offer vital insights

Students who appeared for CUET last year talk about how the exam saves time, effort and even money, calling it an "invaluable process". They also share advice for new aspirants

THE CUCET (Central Universities Common Entrance Test) examination which was conducted for admission in seven central universities in India was remodelled as the CUET (Common University Entrance Test) examination and made its debut in the year 2022. The exam, still in its nascent stage, has probed the minds of many about the myriad possibilities that it can offer.

Edex spoke to a sizeable number of students regarding the CUET 2022 exam and about what these young minds had to offer to the students appearing for the examination this year.

CUET, an easy way

Aravind Jagadeesh Chandran, now studying at the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, under the University of Delhi (DU), talks about how CUET made the application process a bit easier for him. He says, "Graduation in India can be a confusing affair. As the exam was under one spectrum, I was able to apply to all prestigious universities like Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), DU, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and many more."

"Few people might not know about the universities that one can apply for but now, through CUET, they can avail the courses and have a fair knowledge as to which university offers what course, which is certainly helpful," says M Aarthi, who is currently pursuing her BSc Computer Science from Pondicherry University.

Arnav Kumar Daksh who is pursuing his Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS) from Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College calls the exam an "invaluable process" as it saves students time and effort. He further affirms that for students wanting to take up Science and who already have to compete against JEE and NEET aspirants, this is a "crucial and logical step".

wise words

Highlighting an important aspect of the examination, Arshida Rifa, a BPharma student from the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), Madhya Pradesh, highlights the aspect that, "It (CUET) can reduce stress and pressure on students who have to prepare for multiple exams simultaneously."

"It allowed me to apply for not just one, but multiple courses, increasing my chances of being accepted into a programme that best aligns with my academic interests," asserts Rishabh Jadon who is also pursuing BMS from Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College.

On an economic front, Rakhi Singh, a student from Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh, says, "The examination has also made it easier for the middle-class as now, they do not have to pay fees every time they fill up forms for different universities."

Level of difficulty

Arnav states, "I was surprised by how straightforward the post-examination process was. The exam was moderately easy for me as I had been preparing for other tests too."

Rishabh also asserts that the post-exam process is "fairly straightforward". For Rakhi too, the post-examination was not as hectic as she had ascertained. She kept herself updated by regularly checking the college websites.

She says that "The counselling sessions did not create a hassle for me as I had a firm idea of how to keep myself updated with the registrations at the universities. There were websites other than NTA (National Testing Agency) that intimated students about the opening and closing of the admission and registration portals of different universities."

Post-exam process

One should always keep themselves updated with the information being released, states Rakhi. "Students must keep an eye on the websites of the universities/colleges where they might want to enrol themselves."

She also notes that for students residing in remote areas, selecting the preferred city for the exam centre is crucial, as they may be assigned a location far from their residence, resulting in additional inconvenience and hassle.

"My advice would be to fill out the form for as many universities as possible. There's no harm in doing so and it can increase your chances of getting into a good college or university," says Rishabh.

CUET UG exams are scheduled to be held from May 21 to May 31 this year

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DAY'S DIARY

The Paramount rise

Paramount Pictures, one of the first and most successful Hollywood film studios was founded on this day in 1912

THE BEGINNINGS

American film mogul Adolph Zukor was the founder of Paramount Pictures. It was initially named as Famous Players Film Company. The current name was adopted in 1916

THE LOGO

In 1916, Zukor put 24 actors under contract and honoured each with a star on the logo. In 1967, the number of stars was reduced to 22

FILMS

Notable films by the company include *The Godfather*, *Titanic*, *Psycho*, *Braveheart*, *Forrest Gump*, *Shutter Island*, and *Saving Private Ryan*

Check out the latest in the world of automobiles

PG 3

Me-time versus our-time

RUBINATIONS
Rubi Chakravarti
Writer, actor and funny girl

I NEEDED this hiatus from all things social and 'anti-social' to give me a fresh frame of reference on what's crucial, and a fierce perspective on what is important. ME! I'm sure my healer will approve, as he has always reiterated that putting oneself first is a conscious habit (unless one is a narcissist). All these alpha roles we play as women; powerful individuals, understanding spouses, sacrificing moms. leave no place for precious 'ME' time. This extremely restrictive space is a harbinger of feeling desolate.

This is the first time that I was a working recluse in my city of Mumbai. I didn't connect or make plans with any of my friends either old or new. I liked that feeling, as it gave me time to reflect and suss out answers for myself. I stayed with my niece in her luxurious five-bedroom apartment, with an endless sea-view, and a stone's throw away from my apartment which was going through a major overhauling. Imi's sisters were down from the US and there was a sweet rebonding with both of them right through Ramadan. I was impressed how these Dior/Chanel wearing ladies, believed and practised their beliefs with integrity and generosity, with the 'fasters and 'feasters' enjoying the breaking of the fast alike. I saw the gentle love the sisters had for their brother as they pampered him with conversations, food and doctors' visits which he would never have done otherwise. My family is loud, raucous and demonstrative, while his is calmer and equally loving. I understood.

On my flight bound inwards, I was chuffed when my mobile lit up like a Christmas tree before I even said 'touchdown'! The messages were mostly from friends who said, 'nuff is nuff', invitations and a whole load of emails from readers who missed my columns.

Visheshwar Raj Singh and Rahul Gomes Pereira

No sooner had I landed than it was a quick reconnaissance of what was missing at home (everything!), a pep talk with a 'holidayed-out' staff and a reconnection with my flower-guy, laundry-guy, milk-guy, grocery-guy. Sigh! Yes! I was out for nearly two months. Luckily I had made a programme with my girlfriends to meet at Four Seasons for a dim-sum lunch as soon as I got back. Chef Ng Meng Looong from Malaysia wove his magic, with his exceptional lobster broth and Agaricus blazei dumplings had us swooning for more. Even though my friend GM Reuben Kataria was busy in training, he made sure to pop-in and make us girls feel special.

There have been a slew of Michelin Star chefs and master chefs visiting our city of discerning palates lately. I was thrilled to finally attend chef Manish Mehrotra's (of Indian-Accent fame) pop-up dinner at JW Marriott at the invitation of GM Gaurav Sinha. There is a week-long waiting at his restaurants both in Delhi and New York! Needless to say the food was impeccable and I am lucky!

I had a great experience lunching with chef Rahul Gomes Pereira alias chef Picu of the famed Jamun restaurant at The Oberoi. His five-course lunch inspired by handpicked local Goan ingredients was a smash hit. I asked someone from the hospitality industry how these pop-ups helped the hotels. And the answer was short and succinct. The pop-ups were designed to give an elevated epicurean experience to their regular diners with culinary experiences that were unique and different.

Ah well, great to be back!

Manish Mehrotra and Gaurav Sinha

MAKING IT Count

Joining hands with political parties are theatre groups to create awareness about voting and voicing opinions

PIC: SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

MONIKA MONALISA

WITH the election fever at its peak, many political parties are tying up with theatre artistes to come up with street plays as part of their campaigns. Parties are using them as a medium to reach out to people to talk about their work.

Theatreperson Malur Vijee, wrote an hour-long script for a street play for the Bharatiya Janata Party's campaigning. The script mostly consisted of what the party has done in the last eight years. "It's about their plans and how people have benefitted from them. We have tried to weave all of it into a story. For example, through the play, we have someone who essays the role of a BPL card holder and speak about the benefits they have got from it. The play starts with a song and includes tunes from a musical instrument to call for a gathering. Then, we discuss why they should vote for the party," explains Vijee, who, along with his team has created 40 teams in Karnataka. "Each team has 10 members who take care of 24 constituencies," he adds.

Theatreperson Rajguru Hoskote directed a street play campaigning for the JD(S) to highlight the 'grassroots-level work' done by the party.

"It's a farmers-oriented party so we wanted to depict that in a story format. The advantage of street plays is that people can directly ask us questions, so we can't completely script the play. We need to be able to provide some answers too," he says.

Not just the political parties, theatre groups are also coming together – without associating with any political party – to create awareness about the right to vote.

Hanu Ramasanjeeva, theatreperson, says, "We usually do street plays in south Bengaluru and target areas which have lower voting numbers. We feel people need to be educated on how important it is to vote. So we try to cover those areas. We did some homework about the area with low voter turnout, based on which we chose the areas where we would create awareness. Based on last year's percentage, we went to Mangammanapalya in HSR Layout and Tilak Nagar in BTM," says Ramasanjeeva.

Students of Shree Daksha Academy recently did a street play near Magadi Road. Dilip BM, principal and joint secretary of the college says it was an attempt to spread awareness. "Street plays were created to spread awareness. When we look at any Russian or Greek street theatre, the philosophy was to directly connect with people. For example, in case of advertisements, there's always a choice to read it fully, just glance through it, or even ignore it. In a street play, you are talking to a person making direct contact. Talking to anyone face to face has more impact than going through any other channel," explains Dilip.

Avin Thaliath
(@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

GRUB HUB

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Foodquiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹1,000 from Ovensay**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS
1) Ottaladu 2) Ghari 3) Chatting Pathiri

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT
1. Anand T 2. Zoya F 3. Kanchana M

MORE EVENTS ON P2

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

Lulu Fashion Week Ends on a High Note

Lulu Fashion Week (LFW), Lulu Group's most iconic annual IP and one of the most exciting fashion events of the year, ended on an impressive note on Sunday.

The Grand Finale witnessed top models walking the ramp for LFW with Deepika Das, Vinay Gowda and Shubra Aiyappa as the showstopper for the event. It also paid tribute to the late Puneeth Rajkumar, in the presence of his family and other members of the film fraternity. The evening ended with a soiree that was attended by Bangalore's elite - celebrities from Sandalwood, fashionistas, and well-known personalities from the retail industry, including Kushee Ravi, Divya Suresh, NC Aiyappa and Anu Aiyappa.

LFW was helmed by one of India's best-known fashion choreographers and leading celebrity stylist, Rajesh Shetty.

About Lulu Fashion Week

The debut edition of LFW in Bengaluru exhibited the spring/summer collections of several global brands with Fashion Shows, Fashion Awards and a Fashion Forum, featuring high-end couture to streetwear; luxury accessories to eco-friendly fashion. The event brought together celebrities and eminent personalities from Sandalwood, fashion, entertainment and the retail industries, under one roof.

This year, with multiple fashion shows spread across three days, prominent models walked the ramp for leading brands like Levi's, Peter England, Flying Machine, Kraus Jeans, Caprese, Croydon, Identiti, American Tourister, Jockey, VIP, and more. Lulu also planned a unique fashion show involving senior couples and kids, to lay emphasis on the fact that 'fashion is truly for all'.

Lulu Fashion Awards recognised the exceptional contributions of eminent personalities and brands in the fashion industry, with the 'Style Icon of the Year'Awards, and awards in several other categories.

Lulu Fashion Forum was hosted for students and fashionistas across Bengaluru. Many fashion students from prestigious colleges across the cityattended the discussion at Lulu Mall, Bengaluru.This year's topic for the forumwas 'India's ascent in global fashion and the discussion included eminent personalities from different sectors as panellists -- MM Javeed - CEO & Design Director, MM Javeed Couture, Suvir Jaggi - Vice President South, Images Group, Rajdeep Sarkar - Head Retail Business Development (South Zone), Pantaloons, Raja Kasan - South Operations Head, Westside, and Shomby Goswami, Founder, Avalipt Studio.

HIGHLIGHTS

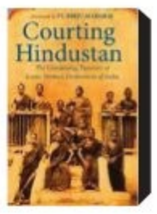
- **The 3-day event was attended by Bangalore's elite - celebrities from Sandalwood, fashionistas and well-known personalities from the retail industry.**
- **The finale paid a tribute to the late Puneeth Rajkumar, in the presence of his family and other members of the Film Fraternity.**
- **The finale witnessed top models walking the ramp for LFW with Deepika Das, Vinay Gowda and Shubra Aiyappa as the showstopper for the event.**
- **LFW was helmed by one of India's best-known fashion choreographers, Rajesh Shetty.**
- **Some of the celebrities included Kushee Ravi, Divya Suresh, NC Aiyappa and Anu Aiyappa.**

CITY READ

NATIONAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AWARD CONFERRED

The Governor of Maharashtra Ramesh Bais, awarded the members of the 7-day silence retreat programme 'Siddheshwar The Power of Soul, SIDDHASANA' with the 2023 Stree Shakti Rashtriya Puruskar (National Women Empowerment Award) for their excellence in contribution to health and life skill training. Shilpa Shyamsukha Mehta, Namrata Mehta, Neetha and Meenakshi Mardia of the Siddhasana team received the award at the Governor's house. The Siddheshwar programme includes the practice of Siddheshwar yoga, breathing techniques, Siddhasana meditation, satvik diet and other activities.

BOOK NOOK



Courting Hindustan

Madhur Gupta

It delves into the scintillating world of courtesans who went on to become empresses, queens, prima donnas, pioneer filmmakers, music directors, ace dancers and so much more.

Wh(eat)less: A Guide to a Glutten-free Life

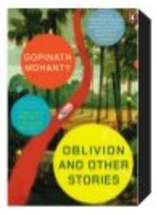
Ryan Fernando

In this book, Ryan has narrated the stories from his practice as a celebrity nutritionist at QUA Nutrition clinics, which he has founded. An ideal guide for anyone who wants to bring about a transformation in their diet.

The Portrait of a Secret: A Novel Inspired by True Events

Tarun Mehrishi

With everything at stake, Indian intelligence battles the ISI and the CIA for control over the secret with every resource at its disposal, until one man decides the fate of the world.



Oblivion and Other Stories

Gopinath Mohanty

Oblivion and Other Stories is an anthology of twenty short stories by Gopinath Mohanty, the doyen of Oriya (now Odia) literature. The stories, written across a half-century (1935-1988), sample his oeuvre of writings and the variety of his themes.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Giving a Voice

Nonagon is an experimental play where each actor has created a character. A total of nine actors and nine roles have been selected and created by them to speak about the division, corruption and hardships of common people in society.

Where: Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road

When: May 9, 7.15 pm

Details: bookmyshow.com

Refreshing Start

Latest on the menu, try out the season's favourite tender coconut water and cold brew coffee. This combination is a good way to get the week started.

Where: Maverick and Farmer, Halasuru

When: Till June 30

Details: 9916633556

Feel the Thrill

Have a fun time with family and get to try some water rides to beat the Monday blues.

Where: Wonderla Amusement Park, Mysore Road **When:** May 8

Details: bookmyshow.com

Wine & View

Unwind with a glass or two at the tasting room overlooking the vineyards with panoramic views or even stay back to know more about the world of wines.

Where: Rico Park Winery and Vineyard, Singanayakanahalli

When: May 8, 11am **Details:** bookmyshow.com

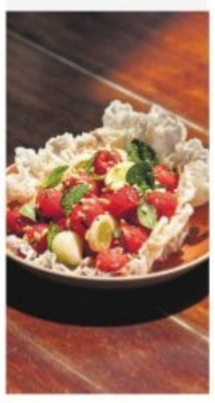
Season's Favourite

Try out some seasonal special salad options inspired from the eastern and south-eastern parts of Asia. The special salad menu features Asian edamame salad with miso maple dressing and the flavoursome Mandarin pomegranate & avocado salad with creamy poppy seed dressing which adds to the texture.

Where: Shiro, UB City

When: May 8

Details: 080 4173 8861



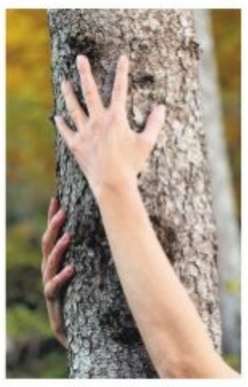
Musically Rich

The workshop aims to expose children to various facets of Indian music and help them comprehend the fundamentals of the genre. It encourages children to express their feelings and connect music to their daily experiences.

Where: Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar

When: May 9

Details: 9686602366



Connecting with Nature

This World Hug a Tree Day, try out something uncommon by hugging an almond tree that was planted in 1944.

Where: Urban Solace, Halasuru

When: May 8

Details: 98450 13055

ARTFUL RUMINATIONS

Works of artist Ramakrishna Nayak displayed at the solo exhibition 'Prakruthi Time and Space' held at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

QUICK FIX

FRUITY SPRING ROLL

Contributed by **Shajadi Raiza**, Chennai

INGREDIENTS

- **Spring roll sheets:** 10
- **Jackfruit:** 10 pieces
- **Banana:** 10 pieces
- **Brown sugar:** as per taste

METHOD

- Take a spring roll sheet.
- Place a strip of banana and jackfruit.
- Sprinkle some brown sugar on top.
- Fold the spring roll sheets according to packet instructions.
- Deep fry them on medium-low heat until it turns brown.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

KAPINJALASANA KNEE ON FLOOR

(PARTRIDGE POSE KNEE ON FLOOR)

A challenging pose, it requires balance and strength. When practised with proficiency, it can boost the energy levels. As a mix of back bending and arm balancing, this pose enhances body awareness. Notice your energy and confidence rise as you progress.

STEPS

- Stand in Tadasana, bend forward, rest the palms on the floor. Move your legs back about 4 to 5 feet as if performing Adho Mukha Svanasana.
- Now turn the whole body sideways to the right and balance it on the right palm and foot.
- The outer side of the right foot should rest firmly on the ground. Place the left foot over the right, rest the left palm on the left hip and balance. The right side of your body is in Vasisthasana.
- Exhale, bend the left leg at the knees and catch the left big toe firmly between the left thumb, index and middle fingers.
- Rotate the left elbow and shoulder and stretch the left arm and leg behind to form a bow. The left arm and leg are now in Padangustha Dhanurasana.
- Balance for a few seconds, keeping the right arm stretched and right bottom knee on the floor.
- Maintain the grip of the left hand on the left big toe. As the spine, chest, neck and shoulders are fully stretched and the abdomen is contracted, breathing will be laboured. Look up.
- Now release the grip on the left big toe, straighten the left leg and place the left foot over the right foot and the left hand on the left hip.
- Rest both palms and feet on the floor.
- Repeat the pose on the other side for the same length of time.

BENEFITS

- It helps to prepare the shoulders and arms for challenging poses.
- Tones the arms thereby preparing for intense arm balance sequences.
- Opens the psoas and core muscles, which strengthens to keep the spine strong and flexible.
- Stretches the leg muscles, abs, arms, hips, shoulders, etc., help in toning both the limbs and joints.
- Encourages deep breathing keeping the lungs and diaphragm active.
- Deep stretching of the hamstrings, shoulders, arms, hips, legs, back, etc., it builds awareness as the whole body is involved.
- Improves the energy levels in the body and mind.
- Spiritually, it is associated with Ajna (Third Eye) Chakra.
- Improves blood circulation and relieves menstrual discomfort.

LIMITATIONS

Anyone suffering from severe lower back, knee or head injuries, low blood pressure, and women during pregnancy should avoid this.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

CAPTAIN (Tamil)

A team of soldiers led by captain Vetriselvan takes up a secret mission that leads them into a restricted forest. Will they be able to uncover the mysterious death trail that haunts the area?

Cast: Arya, Simran, Harish Uthaman

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

MRS UNDERCOVER (Hindi)

An ace undercover agent living as a housewife is assigned a task after a decade. How will she accomplish her mission of finding a serial killer with her forgotten skills?

Cast: Radhika Apte, Sumeet Vyas, Rajesh Sharma

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

JAMTARA - SABKA NUMBER AYEGA (Hindi, series)

A group of small-town young men run a lucrative phishing operation, until a corrupt politician wants in on their scheme — and a cop wants to fight it.

Cast: Sparsh Shrivastava, Monika Panwar, Anshumaan Pushkar

- **Watch on:** Netflix

JI WIFE JI (Punjabi)

This film revolves around unblessed, unhappy and helpless husbands who are overpowered by their wives.

Cast: Roshan Prince, Sakshi Maggo, Karamjit Anmol

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

KACHER MANUSH (Bengali)

Kuntol and Sudarshan meet when they are at their lowest. On hearing Kuntol's story, Sudarshan gets a dangerous and illegal idea that can solve both their problems that results in a hide and seek game with life.

Cast: Prosenjit Chatterjee, Dev, Ishaa Saha

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

THURAMUKHAM (Malayalam)

A fictional recounting of a forgotten chapter from Kerala's history

Cast: Nivin Pauly, Poornima Indrajith, Indrajith Sukumaran

- **Watch on:** SonyLIV

PATHU THALA (Tamil)

AGR is the head of an extremely powerful gang that is as influential as deciding every single move in Tamil Nadu politics. Guna shoots a police officer and seeks refuge in AGR's camp and it is revealed that Guna is actually an undercover cop. Do Guna and the police manage to nab AGR? Why is AGR involved in all the crimes?

Cast: Silambarasan TR, Gautham Karthik, Priya Bhavani Shankar

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

CHUPA (English)

While visiting family in Mexico, a lonely boy befriends a mythical creature hiding on his grandfather's ranch and embarks on the adventure of a lifetime.

Cast: Demián Bichir, Evan Whitten, Christian Slater

- **Watch on:** Netflix

65 (English)

Crashed on an unknown planet, a pilot faces prehistoric creatures in an epic fight to survive.

Cast: Adam Driver, Ariana Greenblatt, Chloe Coleman

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SHAZAM! FURY OF THE GODS (English)

The film continues the story of teenage Billy Batson who, upon reciting the magic word "SHAZAM!" is transformed into his adult Super Hero alter ego, Shazam.

Cast: Zachary Levi, Asher Angel, Jack Dylan Grazer

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

A TOURIST'S GUIDE TO LOVE (English)

Work brings an American travel executive to Vietnam, where a free-spirited tour guide helps open her eyes to a beautifully adventurous way of life.

Cast: Rachael Leigh Cook, Scott Lý, Missi Pyle

- **Watch on:** Netflix

SUBSCRIPTION

ZEE5:	₹ 799 per year
Prime Video:	₹ 179 per month
Disney+Hotstar:	₹ 199 for 3 months
Netflix:	₹ 149 per month
Sony LIV:	₹ 299 per month
Mubi:	₹ 1,999 per year

HERE COMETH THE COMET

MG Motors' new electric car packs a punch, with an innovative design and affordable pricing

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

WHEN you look from outside, it may seem small; but when you go inside, you will see an expansive showroom' — this was the very popular tagline of a textile showroom. The latest electric car in India, Comet from MG Motor took me back to that ad campaign.

I got one full day to drive the cute machine in Delhi.

A car hardly three-meter (2.974m) in length, 1.5m in width and 1.64m in height is an example of design marvel. Though it has the smallest exterior within MG's EV series, it has the interior space of a normal four-door hatchback.

Well-studied design

MG found that in these models, about 70 per cent of the time, only the driver's seat is occupied. The question is whether such solo trips require a four-door car. Or one with two wide doors with four seats? This led to the unique appearance of Comet.

If the driver's side is parked close to any obstacle, the step-through cabin feature allows one to get in and out comfortably through left door. All of this is made possible as Comet is designed as a fully electric car.

It doesn't require a lengthy bonnet and space for a petrol tank. Yes, it has a boxy exterior — a courageous design indeed.

There is a strip of piano-black chrome and an LED-connected lamp at the front. The headlights are at a lower position. The rear is also good-looking with an LED strip.

Interiors

The front seats are high. The broad windshield offers a clear view of the front and the sides, making it easy for the driver to make correct decisions and manoeuvre smartly. The spacious legroom in the cabin is also a result of the 2.01m wheelbase. To enter the back row, the front seats have to be slid forward. It is an easy process.

My only regret is the lack of thigh support in the back row. Those seats are advisable for kids only.

The Comet's steering with pod-like controls gives the EV a modern gadget-like feel. The Rotary Gear Selector is also an attraction. The centre console is equipped with useful features such as electric window operation buttons and a 12-volt charging port.

The in-built iSmart system comes with 55+ Connected Car Features & 100+ voice commands. It has a floating twin widescreen with a 10.25-inch head unit and a 10.25-inch digital cluster.

The power plant

Comet has a 17.3 kWh lithium-ion battery. When fully charged, it will run for 230 km. These are the statistics obtained from test drives in a controlled environment without using AC. As per real driving conditions, this will vary. But for sure, a 150-km range can be achieved easily. It also has a power of 42hp and a torque of 110 Nm.

The driving is smooth as the electric motor provides this torque and power without delay. It has an automatic gear transmission system with Eco, Normal and Sport Drive modes. Also, there are three modes to adjust kinetic energy into electrical energy conversion (regenerative energy mode). However, there is no option for fast charging. It'll take seven hours to charge from 0 to 100% but will charge up to 80% in five hours.

To start the car one needs to double-tap the brake pedal. To switch it off, one can use the smart key or the button placed way beneath the steering area.

The verdict

Comet is ideal for day-to-day short-distance drives. Turning, taking a U-turn and reversing are effortless. Parking in any crowded space will be easy. Comet comes with all the safety standards like IP67 rated battery, two airbags, a parking camera, a sensor and more. At a price of ₹7.98 lakh, it is the most affordable electric car.

XPRESS HIGHWAY
FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

NEW RELEASES

CITROEN REVEALS MID-SIZE SUV 'C3 AIRCROSS'

European brand Citroen has unveiled the C3 Aircross – mid-size SUV engineered in India. Aimed at Indian families, the 4.3 metre-long SUV comes in 5-seat and 5+2-seat versions. The launch will happen in the second half of this year. The midsize-SUV is developed and produced locally – at the Thiruvallur plant in Tamil Nadu with over 90 per cent localisation.

MARUTI SUZUKI BEGINS RETAIL SALES OF FRONX

Fortifying its SUV portfolio, Maruti Suzuki has started retail sales of its new sporty compact SUV, Fronx, from Nexa at a starting price of ₹7,46,500. The Fronx stands out with its modern SUV design, spirited performance, and a tech-loaded premium persona. There is a new 1l K-series Turbo petrol engine with progressive smart hybrid technology. An advanced 1.2l K-series dual jet, dual VVT engine offering Idle Start Stop technology is also on offer. The Turbo model will be available with the choice of a five-speed manual transmission and a six-speed automatic gearbox with steering mounted paddle shifters. The 1.2l model comes with five-speed MT and AMT (AGS). The price range goes up to ₹13.13 lakh.

VOLKSWAGEN INTRODUCES NEW VARIANTS OF TAIGUN, VIRTUS

Volkswagen India has introduced the much in demand manual transmission on the top of the line Virtus GT Plus, powered by the 1.5l TSI EVO engine. It has introduced two new variants of the Volkswagen Taigun – GT Plus MT and GT DSG. The company launched new exterior body colours too. The seat belt reminder is now standard on the Taigun and Virtus variants.

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRAVEEN KUMAR SURESH BABU,** R/at No.847/1, Shankar Dixit Colony Kadugodi Plantation, Bengaluru -560067, have changed my name to **PRAVEEN KUMAR SURESH,** vide affidavit dt: 06.05.2023 before Notary **K.V. Mani,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SMT. LAKSHMI,** W/o Late Sri Anandhan, aged about 50 years, R/at No. 120 2, 6th Cross, 1st Main, Kaverappa Layout, Akashnagar, A. Narayanapura, Doorvaninagar, Bengaluru-560016, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **LAKSHMI** to **KRISTINA SALOMI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **KRISTINA SALOMI** only, vide affidavit dated 29-04-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **BHARATHI KANNAN,** W/o Siddharth Kumar, aged about 24 years, R/at No. 52, Ground Floor, 2nd Cross, RMS Colony, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore-560094, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BHARATHI KANNAN** to **BHARATHI SIDDHARTH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **BHARATHI SIDDHARTH** only, vide affidavit dated 06-05-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **JALANDHARA** at Bangalore.

ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560062, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಉತ್ತರಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹೋಬಲಿ, ಅಂಜನಾಪುರ ಅಂಚೆ, ಅಂಜನಾಪುರ, ಮಾರಿಕಾಂಬ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನದ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಸಿನಪ್ಪ ನಿಲಯ, ಮನೆ ನಂ. 490ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ **ಶ್ರೀ ಎ.ಎಸ್. ರಾಜೇಶ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್** ರವರ ಮಗನಾದ ಸುಮಾರು 19 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ **ಶ್ರೀ ಎ.ಆರ್. ಅನೂಪ್** ಆದ ನಾನು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ **ಎ.ಆರ್. ಅನೂಪ್** ಮತ್ತು **ಅಣ್ಣಪ್ಪ** ಎಂಬ ಎರಡೂ ಹೆಸರುಗಳು ನನ್ನದೇ ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ದಿನಾಂಕ 5ನೇ ಮೇ 2023ರಂದು ನೋಟರಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಕೀಲರಾದ **ಅಂಬ್ರೇಶಪ್ಪರವರ** ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHANDAN M J** or **CHANDAN JAYADEVAMURTHY MATAD** or **CHANDAN MUTUGDUR JAYADE VAMURTHY,** S/o, Jayadevamurthy M C, R/at #203, Jasmine Block, Eden Blossoms Apt, Anjanapura 10th Block, 80ft Road, Bengaluru-560083 have changed my name to **CHANDAN MATAD** for all purposes vide affidavit sworn before notary BKR Krishnamurthy dated: 06th May 2023,Reg No.1351

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **APURVI SINGHVI,** D/o Mr. Parasmal Singhvi and Mrs. Jaya, Aged about 28 years, R/at No.53, Khadi Commission, HBCS Vivekananda Nagar, Katriguppe, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085, hereby declare to change my name as **APURVI JAIN** vide Affidavit dated 06-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary B.K.R. Krishnamurthy, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PARUL,** residing at Flat No G02, No.4, Aqua Apartments, Carleston Road, Cooke Town, Frazer Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to **PARUL MISHRA** vide Affidavit dated 06-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary Gangaraju .B.N, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **FATHIMABE K,** Aged 39 years, W/o Ajeeth Asmath, Residing at Flat No. 105, Butterfly Apartment, Muniraj Layout, Panathur, Kadubeesanahalli, Bangalore - 560 103, do hereby declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from **A Yasmin Fathima** to **Yasmin Fathima Sheriff** vide affidavit dated 04.05.2023 sworn to before H.S. Sakalesh Aradhya, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAMESH SUNDERAMURTHY,** R/at MLC Properties LLP The Millenia Tower-D Annex Level-1 1& 2 Murphy Road, Ulsoor Bengaluru-560008, have changed my name to **RAMESH SUNDARAMURTHY,** vide affidavit dt:06.05.2023 before Notary **K.V. Mani,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **N K VASANTH KUMAR,** aged about 47 years, R/at Neriga Village,Bangalore, Karnataka-562125, now at Anekal, do hereby declare that my son's correct name is **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR .N.V,** but in his TC) (Transfer Certificate) his name is wrongly entered as **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR** instead of **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR .N.V,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR .N.V** only in all records, vide affidavit dated 29-04-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MUNISWAMY** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NATARAJA SHANUBHOG .S.P,** S/o Puttalingappa .S.U, aged about 40 years, R/at #1147/20, Ground Floor, 5th Main, 1st A Block, Subramanyanagar, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010, do hereby declare that I have changed my son's name from **MOHITH SHANUBHOG .S.N** to **MOHON SHANUBHOG .S.N,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **MOHON SHANUBHOG .S.N** only, vide affidavit dated 06-05-2023, sworn before VI Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Jeet Mangal Sha, residing at H.No, 21/35, SKD colony, 4th road, Adoni, Kurnool-518301. Andhra Pradesh, have changed my name from JEETH MANGAL KUMAR SHAH to JEET MANGAL SHA vide Affidavit dated 6-05-2023 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G G**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Deepika Srinvas Mahendrakar** W/o. Mr. M. S. Srinivas R/a. No.1-1/9, 'Mahendrakar Nivas', Devan Madhav Rao Road, Basavanagudi Bengaluru- 560004. I have changed my name from **Deepika Srinvas Mahendrakar** to **DEEPIKA SRINIVAS.** Vide affidavit Dtd: 26-04-2023. Sworn before Notary: K P Ramesh, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Smt. **REETHIKA SHARMA .M (OLD NAME)** aged about 31 years, W/o. Srinivas V., R/at No. 1134, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Near Bande Ganapathi Temple, Shanthaverigopalagowda Nagar, Moodalapalaya, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore 560 072 have changed my name to **RITHIKA SHARMA (NEW NAME)** Vide Affidavit Dated 29/07/2021, Sworn Before Advocate & Notary G. Dayananda, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HARIKRISHNA CHILUKURI HONGAL,** resident of Plot No 90 Sneha Paradise Apartment Flat No 202, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, RHCS Layout E Block, Srigandhadakaval 2nd Stage, PO Viswaneedam, Bangalore-560091 have changed my name to **HARIKRISHNA CHILUKURI** vide Affidavit dated 05-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary H.G. Padmanabha Rao, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **FAROOQI VARIS ALI,** S/o. Farooqui Saheb Peer, resident of No. 4 55/1A, 7th B Main Road, BTM Layout, 1st Stage, Bangalore - 560 029, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **FAROOQUI VAREES ALI** to **FAROOQI VARIS ALI** vide affidavit dated 06.05.2023 sworn to before P.N. Nagesha, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I **DEEP MALA GUPTA** W/o Pavan Kumar Gupta, Aged about 40 years, Residing at No.9, Sri Lakshmi Ranganatha Nilaya, Gayatri layout, 16th Cross, 3rd Phase, 2nd Cross, Basavanapura Main Road, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-36, state that in all my educational documents my name is written as **DEEP MALA GUPTA** but in my Aadhar card it is mentioned as **POOJA GUPTA** and I want to continue my name as **DEEP MALA GUPTA** instead as **POOJA GUPTA.** Vide affidavit dated 13/03/2023 sworn before advocate & Notary Mr. G. B. Turamari, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PAVITHRA R BIJJAVARA,** aged about 46 years, W/o. Srinivas B, Residing at No.2, 24/1, 13th Cross, Malagala Main Road, Near S B I Bank, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru -560091, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **"PAVITHA B R"** to my new name **"PAVITHRA R BIJJAVARA"** vide Affidavit Dated: 02/05/2023 duly Sworn to Before **Sri. Ramasanjeevaiah.** K.V, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **D.S. SARAYU,** D/o Siva Kumar .D, R/at Flat No.101, SSV Flora, No.656, 1st Main, C Block, AECS Layout, Kundalahalli, Bangalore -560037, had born on.09/03/2005, has been changed my name from **D.S. SARAYU** to **D.S. SARAYU SHREE,** its Birth Certificate issued on.13/05/2011, vide affidavit dated 05/05/2023, sworn before the Notary of **Mrs. S.S. INDIRA,** B.A. LLB, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. Of India, Bangalore.

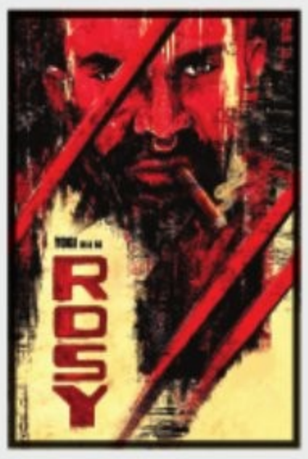
CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mahima C. S.** W/o Krishna Kumar C, Aged about 37 years, Residing at : No. 158, Manjunatha Road, 2nd Block, Thyagarajnagar, Bangalore - 560028, I declare that **Mahima C. S. and Mahima Krishna Kumar,** Both the names belongs to me. vide affidavit dated **06.05.2023** Sworn in before **Neha Baddi, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt of India,** # 606, 10th A Main, Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore 56001.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GEETHA BHARATHI,** D/o Mr. Manickchand and Mrs. Prema, Aged about 29 years, R/at No.53, Khadi Commission, HBCS Vivekananda Nagar, Katriguppe, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085, hereby declare to change my name as **GEETHA BHARATHI JAIN** vide Affidavit dated 06-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary B.K.R. Krishnamurthy, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sri. **SHRINIVASA .V (OLD NAME)** aged about 32 years, S/o. Venkataramanappa, R/at No. 1134, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Near Bande Ganapathi Temple, Shanthaverigopalagowda Nagar, Moodalapalaya, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore 560 072 have changed my name to **SRINIVASA .V (NEW NAME)** Vide Affidavit Dated 29/07/2021, Sworn Before Advocate & Notary G. Dayananda, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GAYATHRI GOLI,** resident of Plot No 90 Sneha Paradise Apartment Flat No 202, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, RHCS Layout E Block, Srigandhadakaval 2nd Stage, PO Viswaneedam, Bangalore-560091 have changed my name to **GAYITRI GOLI** vide Affidavit dated 05-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary H.G. Padmanabha Rao, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **REVATHI B KURUDIGIMATH,** aged about 28 years, W/o. Abhishek R Sunkerikar, 26 and 27 Flat No. 002, A V R Residency, 4th Main, Bank of Baroda Colony, JP Nagar 7th Phase, Puttenahalli, Bengalauru - 560 078, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **REVATHI B KURUDIGIMATH** to **REVATHI B KURUDIGIMATH,** vide affidavit dated 06.05.2023, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.



Team *Rosy* approaches Parthiban for an important role

CE FEATURES

ACTOR-filmmaker Parthiban, who was recently seen in Mani Ratnam's much-anticipated *Ponniyin Selvan* duology, made his Kannada debut with Ajay Raj Urs' *Dada is back* (2017). According to sources, the actor has now been approached to be part of director Shoonya's upcoming film, *Rosy*.

Billed as a gangster film, *Rosy* stars Yogi in the lead role, and the makers are planning to rope in Parthiban for an important role. With discussions in place, an official announcement is expected to be out soon if everything goes according to plan, including the shooting dates and other commitements. *Rosy* is Shoonya's second project after *Head Bush*, which starred Dhananjay in the lead. Written by Shoonya, *Rosy* is said to be based on a real-life incident.

With the filming set to begin soon, the makers are zeroing in on the rest of the cast and crew of *Rosy*. Backed by Rajesh, *Rosy* will have Anand Sundaresan onboard as the cinematographer.

Yogi

Parthiban

Radhika Kumaraswamy, Shreyas Talpade team up for *Ajagrata*

CE FEATURES

RADHIKA Kumaraswamy, who was last seen in *Ravi Bopanna* (2022), and is awaiting for the release of *Bhaira Devi*, is set to star in a psychological thriller titled *Ajagrata*. Directed by M Shashidhar, the film will also mark the Kannada debut of noted Bollywood actor Shreyas Talpade.

Produced by Raviraj, *Ajagrata* will be shot and released simultaneously in seven languages including Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Hindi, Konkani, and Marathi.

Apart from Radhika and Shreyas, the film also stars well-known Tamil actor-filmmaker Samuthirakani, Jayaprakash, Sparsha Rekha, Devaraj, Suchendra Prasad, and Vinay Prasad.

While the project is set to launch Shrihari as a music director, Gowli-fame Sandeep Valluri is on board as the cinematographer.

Ajagrata will be officially launched on May 13 in Hyderabad, and the shooting is set to begin on May 15. The film will be shot in Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Mumbai.

Ajagrata is director Shashidhar's second film after Arun Ram Prasad-starrer Gharga, which is yet to hit the screens.

Shreyas Talpade

Radhika Kumaraswamy

M Shashidhar

DIGANTH JOINS THE CAST OF RISHAB SHETTY'S *LAUGHING BUDDHA*

A SHARADHAA

WE had earlier reported that Rishab Shetty is backing Bharath Raj's upcoming intriguing and whimsical film, *Laughing Buddha*. With Pramod Shetty and Teju Belawadi already in the cast as a cheerful and lively police constable and his wife, respectively, the latest to join the film is actor Diganth.

With the film in its final shooting phase, the makers have roped in Diganth in the role of a con artist, who is pivotal in bringing changes to the plot. Diganth is said to have undergone a transformation for the role, and the makers are currently keeping the details about the actor's involvement under wraps.

In a previous interaction about *Laughing Buddha*, director Bharath Raj revealed that the film is set in the picturesque backdrop fo Malnad in the fictional town on Niruru. The film revolves around Pramod's character, who seeks permission for a day's leave to spend quality time with his wife. What happens when his request is rejected forms the crux of *Laughing Buddha*.

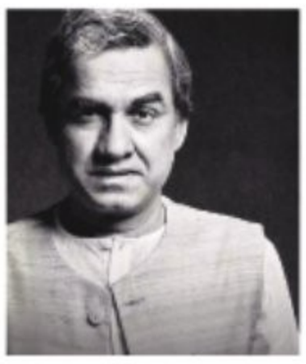
Vishnu Vijay, known for his work in Malayalam films, is making his debut in Kannada cinema with *Laughing Buddha*. With cinematography by Chandrashekaran, the editing is by KM Prakash, the film also features Sundar Raj in a pivotal role.

Apart from *Laughing Buddha*, Diganth is also working alongside Ravichandran in Gururaj Kulkarni's *The Judgement* and *Bachelor Party*.

Billed as a light-hearted entertainer, the Bharath Raj directorial stars Pramod Shetty in the lead

A still from the film

Diganth



Pankaj Tripathi starrer *Main Atal Hoon* begins filming

CE FEATURES

THE filming of Pankaj Tripathi's upcoming film *Main Atal Hoon* began today. The actor took to Instagram on Sunday to make the announcement. The film is a biopic on India's former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Commencing the shoot in Mumbai, the team will have a long schedule of more than 45 days covering different parts of the country like Mumbai and Lucknow.

"I have gotten the opportunity of playing a dignified personality like Atal Bihari Vajpayee. I hope to bring justice to the role of this esteemed personality," Tripathi captioned the post in Hindi.

The film is directed by Ravi Jadhav and is written by Rishi Virmani and Ravi Jadhav with music by Salim - Sulaiman and lyrics by Manoj Muntashir.

Henry Cavill, Jake Gyllenhaal, Eiza Gonzalez cast in Guy Ritchie's film

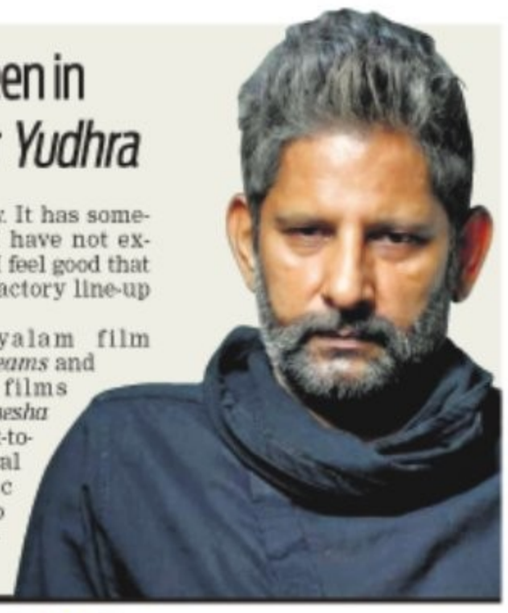
CE FEATURES

DIRECTOR Guy Ritchie is set to helm a film that will have many known faces, including Henry Cavill, Jake Gyllenhaal and Eiza González. The film is expected to be under action genre and will be made on a big scale. While the plot of the film is kept under wraps, the film is expected to have immense action and humour. The story is speculated to revolve around Cavill and Gyllenhaal who are entrusted with the job of designing an escape route for a negotiator played by González. The film is set to go on floors in Spain from summer.

"There's something special that happens when you collaborate with the same partners regularly: you build a shorthand and a trust that lets everybody do their best work. Jake, Henry and Eiza are all astonishingly talented, committed, and engaging actors. This is going to be an action-packed movie that is both intellectually stimulating and physically exhilarating," Ritchie was quoted as saying by Collider.

Actor Raj Arjun to next be seen in Siddhant Chaturvedi starrer *Yudhra*

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Raj Arjun, who has worked in films like *Secret Superstar* (2017) *Thalaivii* (2021) and *Dear Comrade* (2019), will next be seen in Siddhant Chaturvedi headliner *Yudhra*. The film is directed by Ravi Udyavar. Produced by Excel Entertainment, *Yudhra* also stars Malavika Mohanan. Talking about the project and his role, Raj said, "I am just waiting for it to release now. It has something which I have not explored before. I feel good that I have a satisfactory line-up this year."

His Malayalam film *Khajuraho Dreams* and two Telugu films (*Gum Gum Ganesha* and another yet-to-be-titled political and periodic film) are also slated to release this year.